

# THE GATEWAY

volume C number 2 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.thegatewayonline.ca ♦ thursday, september 3, 2009

## Presidents encourage student engagement in annual addresses

SEAN STEELS  
Senior News Editor

Orientation came to a close Wednesday night, and in the usual University of Alberta tradition, it did so with a cacophony of school spirit culminating in the Presidents' address.

Friendly competition was abound as students from each faculty braved the 30-degree heat and shouted themselves hoarse under the canvas of Hawrelak Park's amphitheatre.

Students' Union Vice President (Student Life) Nick Dehod took the stage to thank volunteers and students that had so far made Orientation a success and dole out some words of wisdom to the largely first-year undergraduate crowd.

Dehod preached a message of resilience against the many adversities of university life—primarily academic—that face undergraduates in their first year of studies.

"There is no one way to complete an undergraduate degree, no matter what anybody tells you, whether they're your parents, friends, professor or a lover, or a random person on the street," he said.

Dehod recalled how his

own unique undergraduate experience had been enriched through extra-curricular activities and community involvement on campus.

"The world is not structured like a classroom," he said. "There are things you learn in the classroom and things you learn outside."

"It wasn't until my own third year that I started to enjoy my time here. That was when I began to get involved with different groups and causes that I was actually passionate about. That is how I began to understand the importance and value of community," he added.

He continued to explain that the University's wealth of extra-curricular activities and clubs were an ideal milieu for developing valuable life skills and maintaining an outlet for constructive energy.

"Don't let anyone convince you there is nothing to do on this campus. There are countless students working actively on this campus to make it a better place to get an education, and if you're looking for numerical proof, there are over 350 student groups on this campus alone — more than any other Canadian university.

NICK DEHOD  
SU VP (STUDENT LIFE)

PLEASE SEE ADDRESS ♦ PAGE 5



CYRIL BALITBIT

**ON THE MARCH** Students participating in Orientation 2009 activities make their way to Hawrelak park's amphitheatre, where University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera delivered her annual Presidential address.

## U of A advocates with "top five" for more graduate funding

President Samarasekera wants to see more research-intensive programming at Canada's larger postsecondary institutions

JONATHAN TAVES  
Deputy News Editor

University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera has joined the presidents of the other "top-five" Canadian universities in calling for a greater focus on research and graduate studies at their institutions.

The presidents argue that Canada is falling behind other nations in PhD competitiveness, and that schools across the nation should make an effort to diversify in order to improve the quality and scope of programming that they focus on.

"It's important when you have 90 or so universities in the coun-

try, each one of them doesn't do the same kind of thing, that you have a range of educational opportunities for students," Samarasekera said.

The discussion has ignited a debate in recent weeks, as smaller universities have spoken out, accusing the larger schools of demanding priority funding for research.

Samarasekera refuted this, saying that it's only an issue of schools improving at what they're already good at, and making effective use of research facilities that already exist.

"Take Augustana, which is our liberal arts college. We should make sure that Augustana has the best facilities, the best undergraduate

**"We are under-producing individuals with the capability to make the kinds of research breakthroughs that are the next frontier."**

INDIRA SAMARASEKERA  
U OF A PRESIDENT

experience in a small college setting," she said. "The colleges in smaller towns should still have access to a major research library if they need it, but we shouldn't have to duplicate them everywhere."

Samarasekera would like to see a larger graduate student population at the U of A in particular.

"Right now, the U of A has about 6,000 graduate students, and about 30,000 undergraduates students, so that's the one-to-five ratio. What I'm saying is the U of A should have 10,000 graduate students and 30,000 undergrads."

Samarasekera stressed that an increased focus on graduate work and

research would not diminish undergraduate programs; in fact, she sees the opposite as being true.

"If we get another 4,000 graduate students over the next number of years, that will have to come with additional professors. Those additional professors will also teach undergraduates, so the undergraduates who are at our university will actually have a better experience, and more research opportunities should they choose to pursue them," she said.

Advocates for undergraduates want to make sure that they don't fall to the bottom of the list of priorities in the midst of all the research focus.

PLEASE SEE GRADS ♦ PAGE 3

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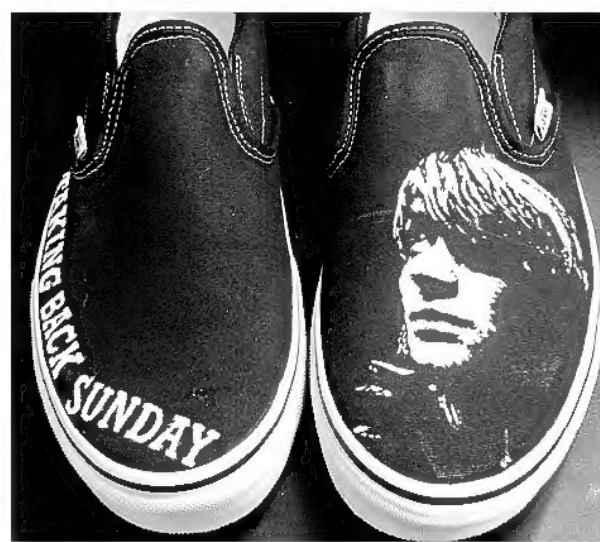
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### Student lawmakers

Lucas Wagner brings you more than you ever needed to know about your student government

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### Sunday backtakers

Taking Back Sunday's newest member Matthew Fazzi addresses haters of their latest album *New Again*

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## THE GATEWAY

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## colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **FENICE**, **Joanna**, **Kepler** and **Whitney**. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are Super Mario Galaxy and Professor Layton and the Diabolical Box.

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## Norway rocket launch to be awarded to student

Spot at camp could go to any U of A student who meets largely GPA-based entrance requirements

CATHERINE SCOTT  
News Staff

While most Canadian students are preparing to face another school year, some are also preparing for takeoff. Four Canadian students chosen from a pool of applicants from the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary, and the University of Saskatchewan will attend a week-long intensive course offered by the University of Oslo from November 9-13, 2009 in sounding rockets and payload instrument design.

They'll also launch their "small payloads," a term which refers to a sounding rocket that isn't as big as a full satellite, at the Andoya Rocket Range on an island in northern Norway.

According to David Miles, a graduate student working on his thesis in physics, this opportunity to test and experiment could serve as the future building blocks for a stronger, highly skilled workforce capable of operating real sounding rockets for million-dollar projects.

Miles is a co-investigator in this mission and has been invited to test a sensor he has devised, training him for future rocket missions.

"I think working in space is a fundamentally inspiring thing to do," Miles said. "The idea here is to provide a stepping stone so we can take students and get them interested in space activities and give them training before they have to work on these very high-end, very expensive missions."

Miles hopes that this course in Norway will evolve from a one-time offer to a 10-year exchange program with Norway sending some students to



NAROM

**BURNING OUT HIS FUSE UP HERE ALONE** Four western Canadian students will have the chance to launch sounding rockets up to 10 km into the atmosphere. The opportunity is part of a partnership with the University of Oslo, Norway.

Canada to partake in courses not offered at the U of O. The proposed exchange is called CaNoRock (The Canadian-Norway Rocket Exchange) and still needs to be approved and funded. This year, the U of O is funding half of the program with bursaries, and the Canadian Space Agency along with the Institute for Space Science Exploration and Technology (ISSET) at the U of A funding the other half.

According to Miles, Canada has historically been a world leader in sounding rockets, especially at the U of C. However, Miles added, Canada has launched only one in the last ten years, and that most of what is launched today

is satellites. But there aren't enough satellites orbiting around the Earth to provide enough data about space storms and weather, which can affect things like electrical grids, the stability of satellites and the altitude at which it's safe for airplanes to fly.

One of the goals of this program is to generate interest among students from diverse disciplines to get involved and trained to recommence these rocket missions to find out more.

All three universities are guaranteed at least one spot in the course, and they're involved in some friendly competition to see which school will fill the fourth spot, according to Melanie

Faulknor, Administrative Director for ISSET at the U of A. The U of A's spot is up for grabs for any undergraduate from any discipline who fits the bill.

"GPA is the most important thing, but we're looking for people who have career aspirations in [the field of] space," Faulknor stated.

Though the course is self-contained, meaning that the University of Oslo will train and give students all the tools they need, Miles added that this sort of work is not for everyone.

"You should go expecting to get your hands dirty," he said.

The application deadline is Friday, September 5, 2009.

## STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by  
Kelsey Tanasiuk & Pete Yee**Matt Walker**  
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Arts I**Kris Elashuk**  
Science I**Christina Bassett**  
Psychology IV

As you may be aware, Disney recently bought Marvel Comics.

## What Disney/Marvel crossover would you like to see in action?

I'd have to say, it would be Goofy mixed with Longshot. [Why?] It's just because I like Longshot and Goofy's cool because he doesn't get any play so it would be a good mix. Longshot just made an appearance in a movie.

Mickey, Donald, and Goofy, and those guys? I'd like to see them band together and form a supergroup, like a Power Rangers-type group, and fight crime. I think they'd fight that supergroup with Superman and Batman and all that. [The Justice League are D.C. characters] Well then I'd rather see D.C. and Disney. That's my answer.

Pluto. Juggernaut and Pluto [...] You have Pluto, who is Mickey Mouse's pet who can't talk, and you have Goofy, who is his best friend who can talk. Both of them are dogs, so evidently Pluto is the lesser in the dog family of Disneyworld. Then you have Juggernaut who is the most bad-ass Marvel villain ever. So if you mix the two together you have something interesting.

I'd choose Spider-Dumbo, just because it would be an interesting character. Give Dumbo a little more of a kick.

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# ECOS bike library opens doors for annual checks and repairs

SEAN STEELS  
Senior News Editor

Expansion of a Students' Union-sponsored bike check this year means that even more students will get the chance to have their bicycle's safety checked and repaired free of charge. The check is being run between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. this Thursday and Friday at Celebration Plaza (across from the Administration building) by the Environmental Coordination Office of Students (ECOS) and their Bike Library Room.

"This has been a part of Week of Welcome for around three years, but this is the first year we've been able to offer two days. It's increasing in popularity. Last year, we checked about 46 bikes over the three hours," said Louis Veillard, ECOS Director.

The program, however, has its limitations, explained Coreen Shewfelt, Bike Library Mechanic with ECOS. While small repairs are expected, major fixes, such as part replacement will have to be dealt with either by referral to ECOS' Friday bike repair sessions or to local bike shops.

"We don't really have the time at these checks to fix something dragged out of the North Saskatchewan, which we have seen before," she laughed. "If you've got a bike that's missing pedals, don't bring it."

But Shewfelt also cautioned that those on the other end of the need-for-repair spectrum could also benefit greatly from these sessions. Proper bike maintenance can have drastic effects on a bicycle's ride-ability.

"Even if you don't feel like your bike needs work, you can always bring it in to have it tuned up. A bike that's mechanically sound will be a lot easier to ride and you'll ride it more because it'll be more enjoyable," she said.

ECOS checks also aim to increase students' own bike repair knowledge by coupling instruction with the repair service. Most bike problems, Shewfelt

continued to explain, can be remedied with nothing more than a wrench, a tire pump and a patch kit.

"Most of the principles behind bike mechanics are pretty simple and most minor bike repairs are things that people can attempt on their own or with a little guidance," she said.

One thing to watch out for are loose brake or shifting cables, which can fall out of calibration with time and use.

"You can tell because your brakes

won't be as strong or you might be requiring extra effort to push your gears through a shift," she said. "Also, everyone needs their tires pumped about once a month if you're riding regularly."

Campus Security will also be on hand at the event to provide bike registration in the event of theft. For answers to additional questions about bike transportation on campus or to get involved with ECOS' Bike Library, visit their office in lower SUB.



PETE YEE

**TUNE-UP** Campus cyclists can enjoy a free inspection of their vehicles Thursday and Friday. ECOS will be equipped to handle small repairs and tweakings.

## Benefits follow from focus on research

GRADS ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I think there are lots of advantages of being at one of the top-five research universities in Canada. They're really exciting, but we need to make sure they work for students," said Leah Trueblood, SU Vice President (Academic).

"We're working hard to respond to this movement or even anticipate it, or even say, based on this reality, this is what this could look like in a really positive way for undergraduate students," she explained. "Now we're

asking the University to rise to the challenge."

Samarasekera said the benefits of an increased graduate presence will extend far beyond the U of A campus

"As a country, we produce fewer PhDs per capita than almost all of our [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development] peers," Samarasekera explained. "We are under-producing individuals with the capability to make the kinds of research breakthroughs that are

the next frontier."

She said she wants that research culture to extend to the undergraduate mindset.

"I wish every student who comes to the U of A could have some kind of research experience in their four years," Samarasekera noted. "Because research makes you think, makes you analyze. It's problem solving. It helps open your mind, be creative and curious. Those are qualities you need whether or not you become a researcher after you graduate."



FILE PHOTO: SAM BROOKS

**TALLYING THE RESULTS** A major shift in funding practices by the "big five" would have a ripple effect on how research is conducted throughout the country. Some argue that such a shift could hurt the research efforts on smaller campuses.

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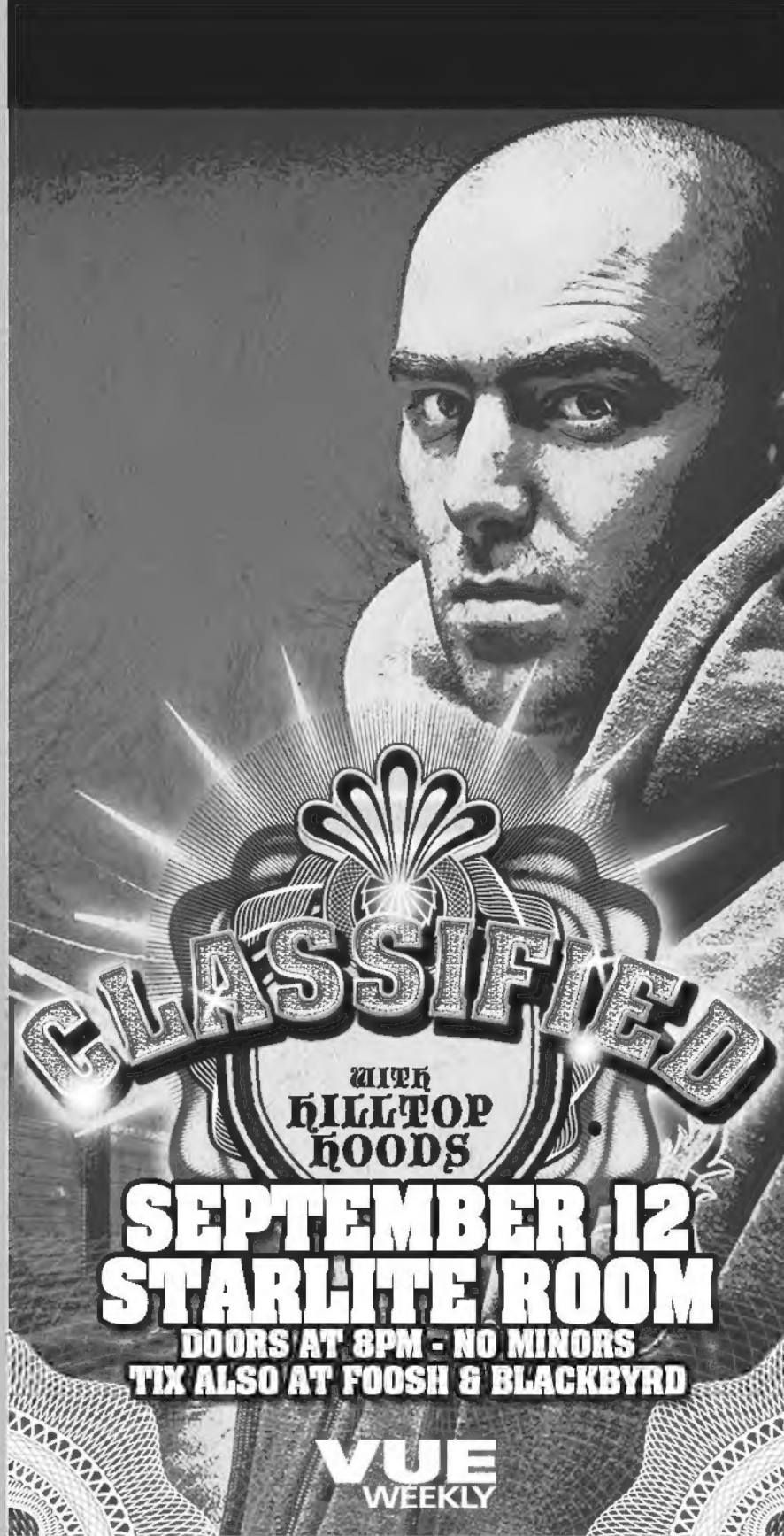


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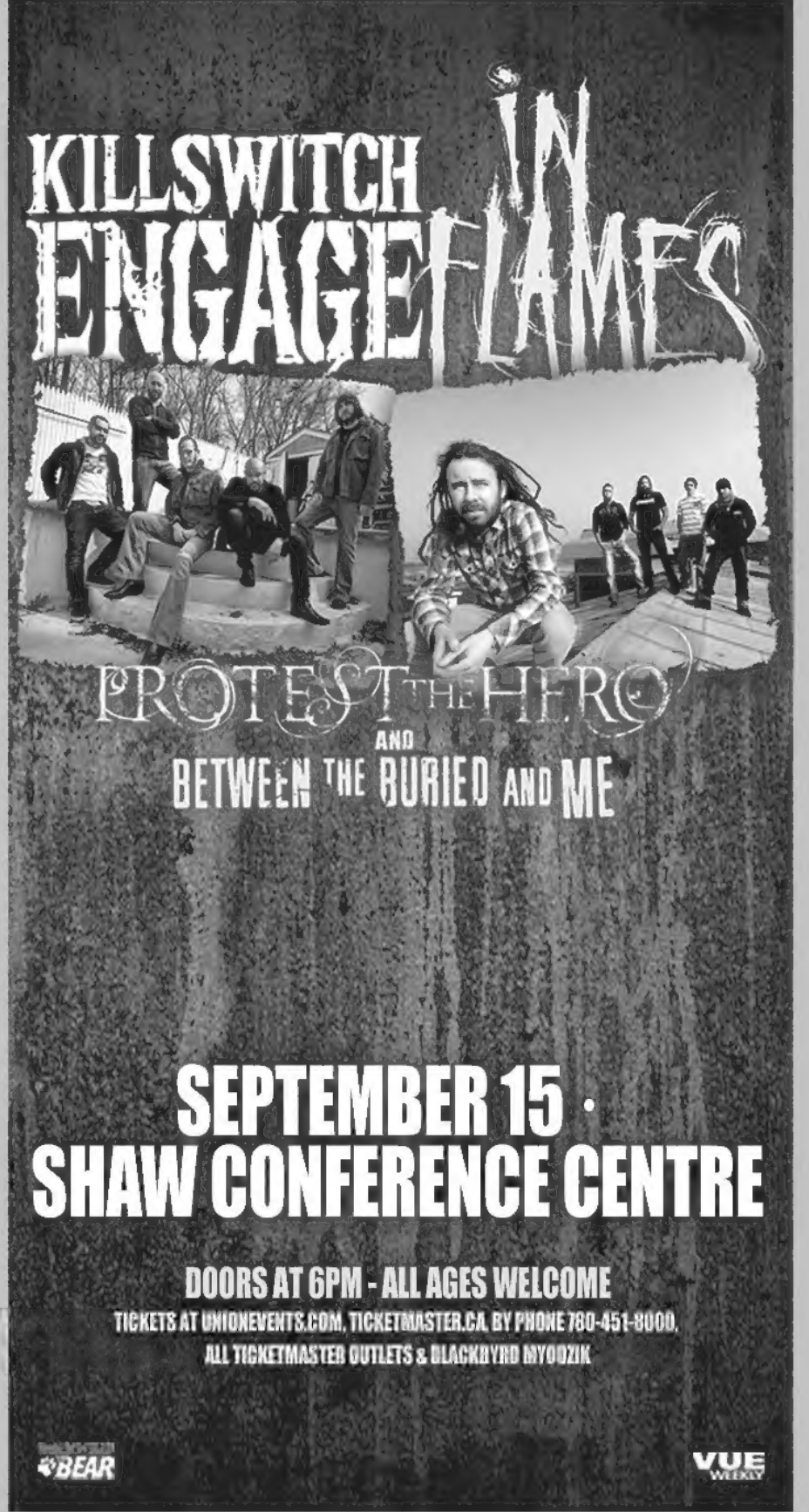
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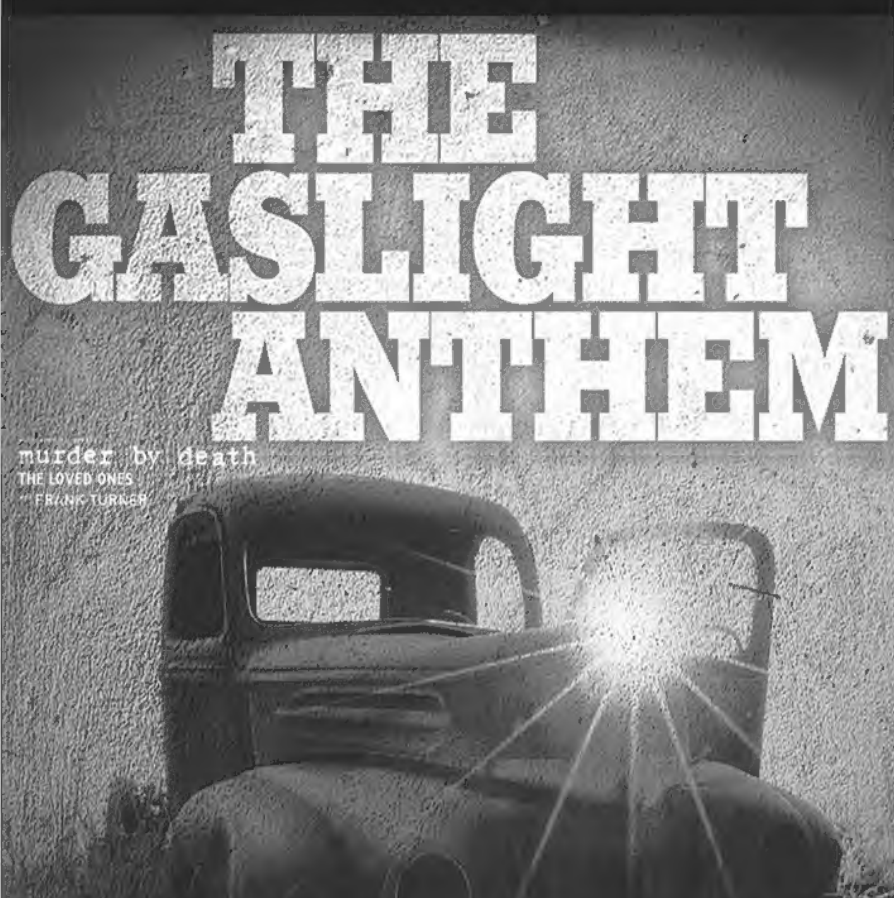


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# Orientation 2009 draws to close amid raucous cheering from undergraduates

## U of A's dance team and mixed chorus provided the evening's entertainment

ADDRESS ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The address continued with a few words from Alumni Association President Jim Hole on his own experiences making lifelong friends at university and, like Dehod, getting involved in the local community.

"There is something here for everyone. The more you get involved in campus activities, the better your experience will be," he said.

"It's your friends, and not just your grades that contribute to your success."

The program then moved on to a presentation from the U of A dance team, firing up students for SU President Kory Mathewson, who took the stage with his trademark colloquial flair.

Mathewson kept with the theme of previous presenters, and emphasized the individual student experience and the transformative power of a degree at the U of A.

"This year will be filled with change, and as fast as your life is moving now, university will only propel you faster into the future," he said.

"You may have your heart broken in broad daylight or study in darkest midnight. You may reach the stars only to have the wind knocked out of you. You will fall, but when you do, fall without apology. Be fearless and do not give up your passion."

Less than typical for the address was Mathewson's next move, an impromptu rendition of "Happy Birthday" for the SU's 100th birthday, though all in attendance responded with vocal enthusiasm.

Mathewson's mixture of comedy and heartfelt advice set the stage for University President Indira Samarasekera who took the podium and fended wild applause, at times excitedly breaking from her usual decorum and firing up the audience like a sports coach and even venturing into Obama territory with



CYRIL BALITBIT

**A WORD OF ADVICE** President Indira Samarasekera works the crowd, earning cheers from first-years and staff at the annual Orientation event's closing.

a "yes we can."

She often fought to speak above the crowd as competitive faculties fought to be heard above one another in their shows of school spirit.

Despite speaking for only five minutes, Samarasekera hammered home the message repeated throughout the rest of the address ceremony and placed the success and future of her institution on the shoulders of students.

"You make this one of the

greatest universities in the world," she proclaimed. "And why do you make it one of the greatest universities in the world? Because you care to make a difference in your lives by studying here and also in the lives of the other students you will interact with."

The address was brought to a close with a ceremonial candle lighting to symbolize institutional unity, and was accompanied by singing on behalf of the U of A's Mixed Chorus.

## CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Sean Steels

### SMASH AND GRAB

Sometime between 3 p.m. on September 1 and 8 a.m. on September 2, unknown person(s) broke into a vehicle parked at Michener Park. The passenger window had been smashed and a purse that was left inside the vehicle was stolen. Edmonton Police are now investigating.

### LATE NIGHT? EARLY MORNING?

Around 3 a.m. on September 2 CSS stopped a non-affiliated male in front of the Heritage Medical Research building for public intoxication. The male had numerous previous dealing with CSS for similar offences. He was warned and directed off property.

### TOGA! TOGA! TOGA!

Just after 1 a.m. on September 2, CSS was contacted by the Edmonton Police Service to assist in disbanding a party at a frat house that was located just off campus as the party was causing a disturbance to the surrounding neighbourhood. Code of student behavior charges are pending for the organizers of the party.

### STRANGER CAME A-KNOCKIN'

At around 1 p.m. on September 1, a resident of HUB reported that an unknown person was entering his suite via an emergency exit door in the wall. CSS discovered the latch on the emergency door was not functioning properly. The unit on the other side of the wall was found to be empty, but CSS and Residence Services will be looking to charge the tenant under the Code of Student Behavior.

### FIND YOUR OWN LOT

Around noon on September 1, a CSS bike unit member observed a previously trespassed male loitering in the parking lot of the University Terrace Building. The male was issued a provincial summons for trespassing and directed off property.

### TRAPPED IN THE ROUGH

In the early morning hours of September 1, a CSS member on patrol observed a golf cart packed with people being driven in an erratic manner near the Education car park. The cart was relocated at the North end of HUB after a complaint was received from a HUB resident.

The males in operation of the golf cart were found to be intoxicated and were members of a student group. The driver was issued a tag for public intoxication. The golf cart was parked for the remainder of the night and the

keys were confiscated by CSS until a sober member of the student group club could retrieve them in the morning.

### THREESTOOGES

Just before midnight on August 31, CSS bike unit stopped three students walking with open alcohol on 87 Avenue and 114 Street. They were identified and the alcohol was disposed of.

### I'LL LET YOU OFF WITH A WARNING THIS TIME

Around 10 p.m. on August 31 a group of five students were stopped for open alcohol in Corbett Field. They were identified and some had previous dealings with CSS for similar incidents. The alcohol was disposed of and the group was given a warning.

### OVERSTAYED YOUR WELCOME

On the evening of August 31, CSS received a report from an East Campus Village resident that a male was sleeping on his front porch. CSS attended and identified the male who had numerous dealings with CSS in the past.

The male was thought by officers to be intoxicated and also had an outstanding provincial warrant and a lengthy criminal record. He was arrested on the outstanding warrant and turned over to the Edmonton Police.

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## Students' Council & General Faculties Council By-Election

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We are now accepting nominations for the Students' Union by-election to be held in several faculties on September 24 and 25. Positions available are listed below.

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PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION	1 General Faculties Councillor Seat
FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN	1 Students' Union Councillor Seat 1 General Faculties Councillor Seat
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Nomination Packages are available from 2-900 SUB, 3-02K SUB, or online at [www.su.ualberta.ca/vote](http://www.su.ualberta.ca/vote).

Nominations are due on September 14 at 5:00pm.

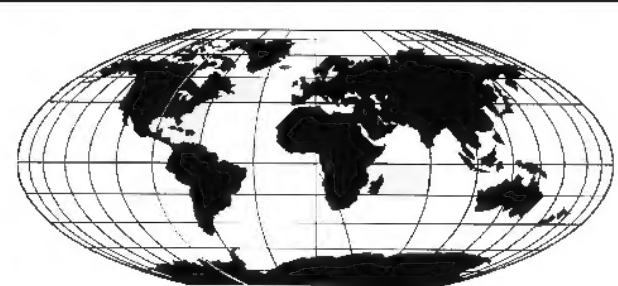


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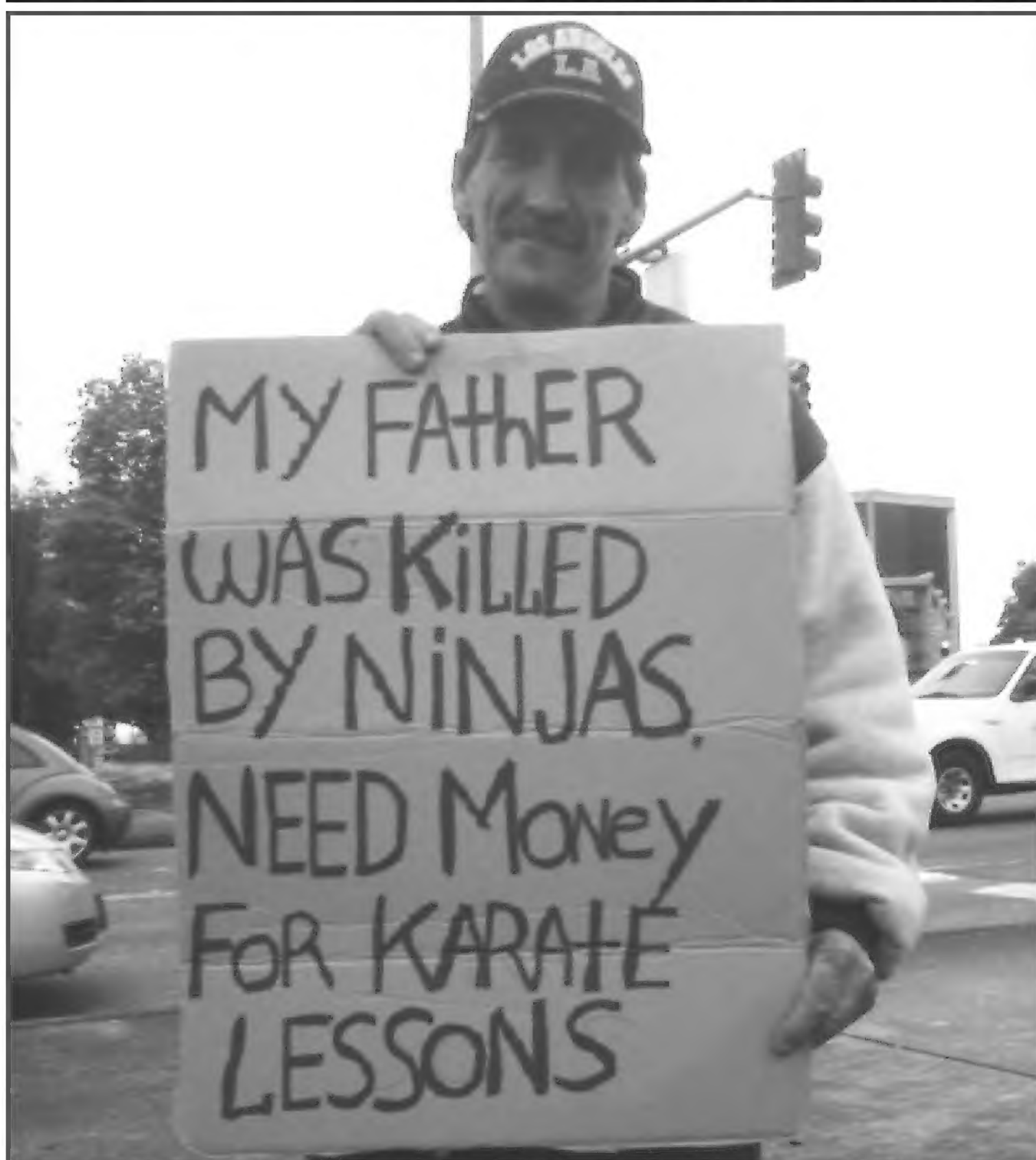
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# Circumpolar Institute will likely highlight science centre addition

JONATHAN TAVES  
Deputy News Editor

The Canadian Circumpolar Institute (CCI) at the University of Alberta is the leading candidate to be a major part of upgrades at Edmonton's Telus World of Science (TWoS) over the next five years.

TWoS is in the planning stages of a multi-million dollar renovation, and sees the CCI as a perfect fit for its new facilities.

"It's a very significant plan. If all our aspirations were delivered upon, it would more than double the size of this facility," said George Smith, president and CEO of TWoS. "The Circumpolar Institute will be a very key player in terms of [bringing] to the public through us some really important learning opportunities about those regions."

The CCI spans across all faculties at the U of A, looking at everything from glaciers, snow, and bodies of water, to the cultural and sociological impact of the environment on people living in the region.

Director of the Institute Marianne

Douglas said that a successful result of the discussions with the TWoS would present a unique chance for researchers to give exposure to their work.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for some of our scientists [to] showcase some of their science and interact with school-age kids and the general public," she explained. "[TWoS] wants to expand their galleries to include a northern initiative, and that certainly fits the goal and mandate of the CCI: [...] to promote interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research in Polar Regions."

Organizers see a benefit for all parties involved.

"For the U of A, the City of Edmonton and the [TWoS], there's this real convergence of interests. With Edmonton as the gateway to the north, going back over 100 years as an economic pipeline to the territories, but more importantly now, we're a social, healthcare, and educational pipeline as well, in both directions," said David Hik, Professor in Biological Sciences and Canada research Chair in Northern Ecology.

Hik has been heavily involved in

the discussions to determine how the partnership would work.

"Over the last two years, we've spent an awful lot of time thinking about what we can do together, and one of those things would be to build our capacity to do research, to support social, cultural, and economic development in the territories, and to communicate science."

There's also a good chance plans will include space for research to be done on site, Smith explained.

"The public really wants to understand what's going on in science today, what's happening and why, and what does it mean to them. So much of that research is happening right across the river from us, and we're that natural portal to the public," he said. "We think there's an opportunity to have researchers here on site, and research labs. In some ways we can become another campus of the U of A, and mixing those with interactive exhibits to help expand the learning opportunities of the visitor."

Though the grand opening of the addition would still be in the distant future, those involved are optimistic that their plans will eventually come to fruition.

"We can always dream blue skies, but you still have to be able to build it," Douglas stated.

"We'll worry about money later on. I mean, it's got to be grounded in reality, but at this point, that's not what's limiting the potential. The interest is there. The partners are there," Hik said.

Smith also recognized the possibility of other disciplines being included in the expansion plans.

"There are so many other areas of science research that places like the U of A are doing. We want to take advantage of all that we can. Obviously you can't do it all at one time," he said. "What we're excited about is that we think the opportunities and the possibilities are limitless."



**BIG IDEAS** David Hik hopes the CCI can showcase its research in a new way.

## CAMPUS DIGEST

Compiled by Sean Steels

### A TINY DEAL

Micralyne, a micro-electromechanical systems manufacturer, nanotechnology foundry, and business affiliate with the U of A has announced it will begin installation of a "stepper," a tool that improves the accuracy and refinement of ultra-fine features on microsystems products.

All aspects of the installation and operation will be cost-shared with the University to increase accessibility to the unit, which will be housed at Micralyne's Edmonton facility.

### SHAME ON YOU

Dr. Jessica Van Vliet recently had her findings published in *Psychology and Psychotherapy: Theory, Research, and Practice*, a British publication. She has found that shame works as a complex social mechanism to maintain order and set social barriers.

Her research also showed that those who feel too much shame can become debilitated by their emotions more easily and tend to over-personalize situations or become depressed and despondent.

To get over shame, Van Vliet found

the best remedy was a strong sense of connection with family or friends to create a sense of humanity.

### GETTING INTO THE SWING OF THINGS

Recent research involving University of Alberta School of Business assistant professor In-Sue Oh has indicated that teamwork building exercises can help new students better connect with a campus lifestyle.

The paper, published in *Applied Psychology*, focused on student retention as an indicator of connection to campus life and found that those who didn't participate in team-building exercises were more likely to drop out or change postsecondary institutions.

The study found that such exercises helped build a sense of social security in students, allowing them to devote their time and thoughts to studies instead of friendship woes.

### FUNDING GOES TOWARDS CLEANING OIL SANDS

The Alberta Government has awarded \$1.5 million in funding to the University of Alberta's School of Energy and the Environment in hopes of combating damage from the oil sands.

The fund is reminiscent of a donation made for similar purposes last year by the Energy and Innovation Fund for the amount of \$3 million.

The money will be used to create a network of research entities capable of creating technology to improve the

management of tailing ponds, and hopefully in the future move towards their elimination altogether through dry-tailings technology.

### GARDEN GETS FRESH START

A fundraising garden project a half hectare in size has been established at the University of Alberta farm on South Campus.

Produce will be sold from the Green and Gold Community Garden to generate funds to help Rwandan women and their families who have survived their homeland's genocide through the fundraising entity Tubahumurize.

Produce grown in the garden, including a variety of vegetables, is pesticide-free.

### CAN I GET A U?

Officials are expected to announce Thursday whether or not Mount Royal College has finally received its status as an accredited university. If successful it will be Alberta's fifth.

Although Mount Royal officials have remained tight-lipped on the event, the media buzz surrounding the event confirmed attendance of Premier Ed Stelmach and Minister of Advanced Education Doug Horner has left few, if any, feasible options concerning the nature of the announcement.

Mount Royal President David Marshall has called the event a "historic milestone," and both Stelmach and Horner are scheduled to give speeches.

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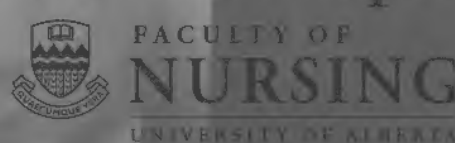
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# Cycling commuters to get boost from city budget changes

JONATHAN TAVES  
Deputy News Editor

Students who cycle to campus may see an improvement to their commutes over the next few months as the City of Edmonton has made it a priority to create better cycling routes.

Ward 5 city councillor Don Iveson explained that the increase in funding for the projects is long overdue.

“[The] adjustment we made to our budget basically makes up for inflation over the last number of years, because the city had been spending around \$1.5 million annually on what we call ‘active transportation,’ but now we’re spending closer to six,” Iveson said.

“But if you consider inflation over the last number of years, it’s only now catching us up to where we were in the ’90s. That \$1.5 million had been flat, so its purchasing power had eroded considerably.”

The new funds add up to an additional \$17 million over three years that will go towards new commuter trails and marked bike lanes along roadways, safe bike lock-ups, and

promotion of a “share the road” message.

The city’s budget differentiates between recreational and commuter routes, which explains the discrepancy in quality between space for commuters along roadways and the multi-use trails in parks and the river valley.

“We have phenomenal recreational cycling trails in the city because we’ve been spending way more money on that historically than we have on developing a good cycling transportation infrastructure, and that’s what our

transportation department has been calling for,” Iveson said.

But bolstering commuter safety is one of the most significant improvements that the new paths will make.

“[Safety] is a big problem and it’s getting bigger as more people are participating [in cycling] either from a recreational or transportation perspective,” said Louis Francescutti, Professor in the School of Public Health at the U of A, and emergency physician at the Royal Alexandra hospital. “And the potential always exists for the most serious of injuries when small vehicles collide with big vehicles. So bicycles and cars just don’t mix.”

The funding should be welcome news to the U of A’s cycling commuters. According to Campus Security Services, since April, there have been four collisions between cyclists and vehicles on campus.

Tara Harris is a fifth-year student who bikes to campus every day.

“In the wintertime, I also ride my bike, so the sidewalk is definitely safer. [On the road] you could fall and the cars won’t see you,” she said.

Though she rides on the road when she can, she sees the need for more space dedicated to bikes.

“Drivers often get pissed off, but I try to get out of their way,” Harris explained. “That’s why you have to use the sidewalk, but then pedestrians get mad. You piss everyone off when you’re on a bike.”

Iveson, who also bikes for his commute, has noticed a similar trend.

“I’ve had people cut me off, and tell me to get off the road and things like that. But those

people are jerks,” he laughed.

He believes that a look at other cities’ planning can help Edmonton create a more bike-friendly environment.

“Even just in a Canadian context we’re definitely falling behind,” Iveson said, citing the effectiveness of trails in cities like Toronto and Vancouver. “I really hope we’ll focus on the core of the city where the density is higher, where there are already a lot of cyclists, whether they’re riding around downtown, or

the huge student ridership on the southside.”

He sees the advantages of the funding increase extending beyond simply usability and safety for bikers.

“Cities that are taking a lead in terms of their environmental sustainability are committed not only to transit, but to walking and cycling as a way to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Plus there are excellent public health benefits, economic benefits — if more people cycle, you need less roadway.”


**“I really hope we’ll focus on the core of the city where the density is higher, where there are already a lot of cyclists, whether they’re riding around downtown, or the huge student ridership on the south side.”**

**DON IVESON**  
CITY OF EDMONTON WARD 5 COUNCILLOR



PETE YEE

**SIGN, SIGN, EVERYWHERE A SIGN** City Council is hoping more designated space for cyclists, like this bike route, will be constructed with a \$17 million boost in cycling infrastructure funding.



**CALL FOR CONSULTATION**  
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**DEAN SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:**

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Kim Raine  
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Dr. Michael Mahon’s term as Dean will end June 30, 2010, and a selection Committee has been established in accordance with University regulations to begin the search for a new Dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation.


At this point, the Selection Committee is calling for opinion on the leadership needs of the Faculty in the years ahead and on any other key issues. Individuals are urged to contact members of the Committee, or write to me as Chair, to express their views on priorities of the Faculty, current issues, and the future direction of the Faculty. All feedback may be shared with the Selection Committee. In order to facilitate the Committee’s work, please submit your comments by Friday, October 9, 2009.

In addition, individuals who may wish to stand as a candidate are invited to apply. Individuals may also nominate others who they feel would be suitable candidates. The Committee is now beginning to consider applications.

The selection of a Dean is vital to the success of the Faculty. I would therefore ask all interested persons, who have some stake in the outcome of this process, to take the time, even at this busy point in the academic year, to give some thought to the future of this Faculty. Your views are important to us. Thank you for your assistance.

Please forward your comments to the address below or to any member of the Dean Selection Committee (contact information at left).

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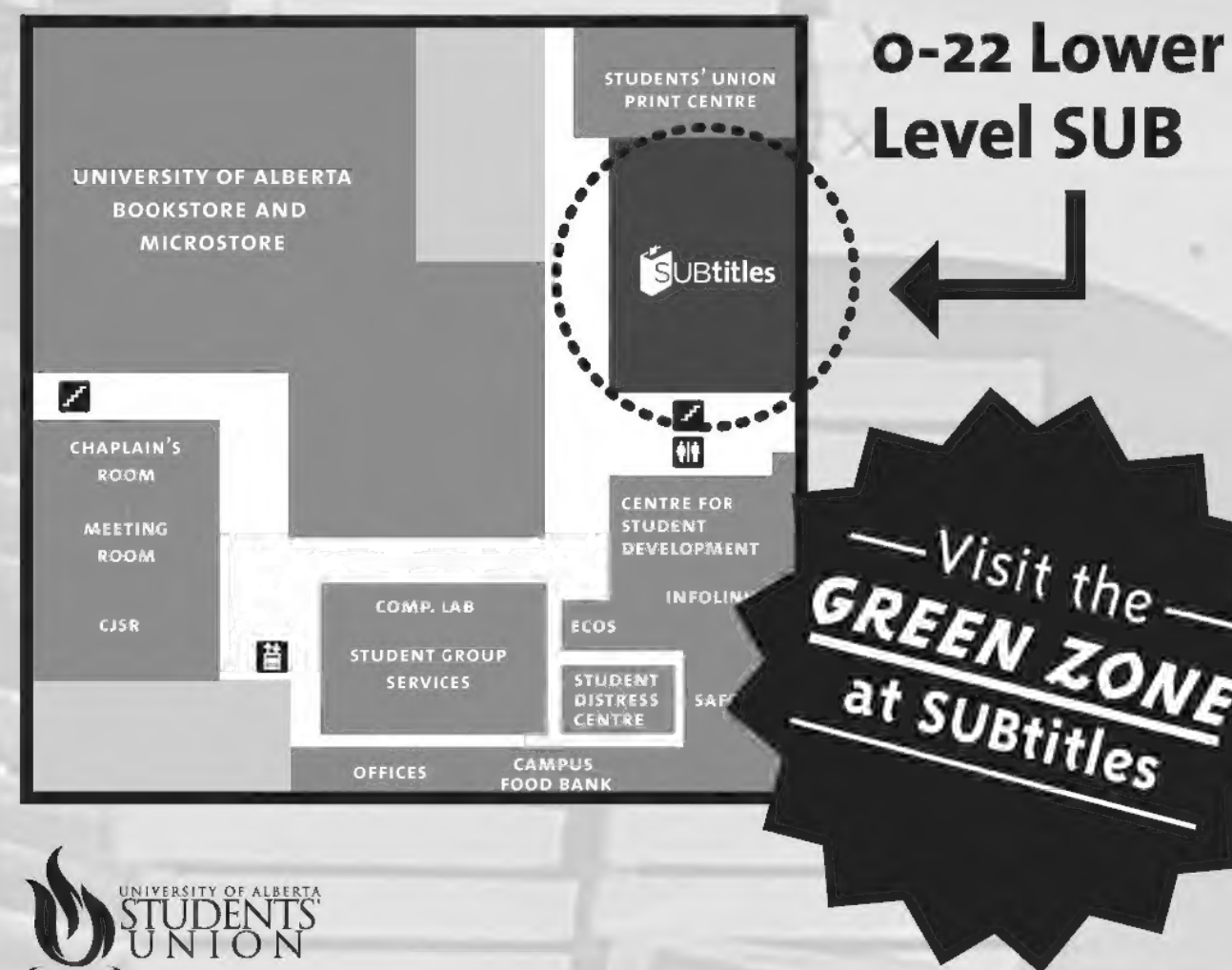
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## B.C. student aid faces cutbacks

SAMANTHA JUNG  
*The Ubyssy*

VANCOUVER (CUP) — Students and administration at the University of British Columbia are speaking out together against \$16 million in cuts to student financial aid made by the provincial government in July.

At the August 19 council meeting of UBC's Alma Mater Society (AMS), the student society of the Vancouver campus, council voted to "authorize an awareness campaign in regards to the cuts" and work towards adequate funding for student aid.

"We have to start getting on the offensive," said Colin Simkus, who attended the meeting as a proxy for Commerce Undergraduate Society President Laura Silvester. Simkus pressed the urgency of the matter to council, making reference to the recent announcement by the provincial government that they revised their estimate for this year's deficit to \$2.8 billion, and that they will be releasing their preliminary budget on September 1.

"We have to be more vocal," said Simkus, arguing that further cuts to BC's student financial aid could be forthcoming if students didn't mobilize.

Vancouver's newspaper, the *Province*, reported in July that the cuts are part of the provincial government's bid to reduce costs by

about \$1.9 billion over the next three years. Moira Stilwell, B.C.'s Minister of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development, told the publication that decisions regarding cuts were difficult, and that following a review of the Ministry of Education's grants program, the provincial government would make sure that core services were protected and funded.

AMS President Blake Frederick said that the society didn't hear about the cuts until they received complaints from students who tried to access student grant program services on government websites and found that the links didn't work. He said that efforts to speak with Stilwell have been unsuccessful.

"My understanding is that no Students' Union in B.C. has been able to get in contact with her. We haven't been able to have any sort of conversation around it," Frederick said.

Frederick explained that the programs which were cut, which include the Premier's Excellence Award and bursaries for nursing students, were designed to help those most in need, and that this acts as a further blow to the accessibility of education in the province.

"We are extremely concerned that the government is going to make further and even deeper cuts to student aid," Frederick said. "And there could be a possibility that they

could remove the two per cent cap on tuition because they are looking to offload costs on to consumers and users rather than through government subsidy, and we're very concerned."

UBC President Stephen Toope said that the University is in agreement with the AMS.

"There's a challenge, because [UBC and other major universities] are trying to work with student government at UBC and more broadly across Canada [...] to make the case that now is not the time to reduce support for students, because in fact there's more need for student support and there's more need for students to come back in some cases, or to attend university," said Toope.

"We're trying to make the case, actually, that there should be no reductions very strongly."

Frederick said that the next step for the AMS is to try and get in touch with the government through the budgeting process and to think of and act out a concrete method of getting their voices heard. He said that protesting at the Vancouver Art Gallery is an option the AMS is considering.

"[There are] a lot of things that we can do," Frederick said, "but we have to make sure that it's targeted very effectively so that we get through to the folks who are making the decisions in government."

## Ending of beverage agreement leaves opening for water bottle ban at York

RYAN BUCHANAN  
*Excalibur*

TORONTO (CUP) — With York University's Pepsi contract set to expire in 2011, student groups may seize the opportunity to push for a bottled water ban at the school.

As the University of Winnipeg prepares to become the first Canadian university to ban the sale of bottled water on campus this fall, pressure may fall on York University's administration to follow suit.

York Federation of Students (YFS) president Krisna Saravanamuttu has thrown his support behind the idea.

"[The YFS] would absolutely support a ban on the sale of bottled water at York," he said.

Bottled water has become a hotbed of controversy in recent years. According to the Polaris Institute, a Canadian think-tank based in Ottawa, restrictions have already been implemented in 30 municipalities in seven provinces across the country, including the City of Toronto's recent ban on bottled water sales at Toronto City Hall and other civic centres.

Environmentalists across the world have been condemning bottled water for years, claiming that the billions of plastic bottles produced every year have created a significant strain on the environment.

According to York's Faculty of Environmental Studies' (FES) policy on bottled water, marketing has created a widespread belief that bottled water is safer than public water, even though the available tests so far haven't shown this to be true.

The FES has already implemented their own ban on bottled water during faculty functions, but professor and associate dean Anders Sandberg said a campus-wide ban is more complicated.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: PETE YEE

**LIQUID ASSETS** Restrictions on bottled water are becoming more common.

"We have a contract with Pepsi that supplies us with bottled water," Sandberg said. "I don't know what the state of that contract is, but we would obviously have to wait for that to expire before we could take any such measures."

Anthony Barbisan, director of York's card and food services, said the contract with Pepsi will expire on August 31, 2011, but claimed the University hasn't decided yet whether or not it will be renewed.

As it stands, York students are divided on the issue.

"Personally, I'm against banning bottled water," said Shayan Mannan, a fourth-year law and society student. "I think we should be able to purchase water if we want to. It's one of life's essentials. If there were more fountains on campus I might use them more often, but I still think we should be able to purchase water if we want to."

Saad Khan, a third-year marketing

student, believes differently.

"I'm very against the selling of bottled water," Khan said.

"Frankly, I think it's a rip-off. I live in residence and at some of our events we have bottled water, which is ridiculous because in residence we have water everywhere."

Khan claimed that sanitation was one of the reasons many students choose bottled water instead of fountains.

"We have enough fountains for students to use on campus," said Khan, "but they just aren't clean. You wouldn't want to drink from them."

A ban on bottled water isn't likely to happen anytime before York's contract with Pepsi is up, but if the ban is ever to be implemented, Sandberg believes that it would have to involve a collective effort from students and faculties.

"It depends on the determination and the pressure that students, faculties, and departments put on York," said Sandberg.

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## Sedentary Senate leads to hypocrisy

LAST WEEK, PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER appointed nine new senators to the upper chamber of Parliament. Naturally, opposition parties were quick to follow the announcement with accusations against the nominees as being partisan and unelected, characteristics of senators that Harper himself has charged against Liberal appointments.

Really, it's no secret that the nominees were picked for partisan considerations, and critics are wasting their breath by pointing this out. Harper obviously has no intention of hiding this fact with choices like Judith Seidman (his former leadership campaign chair), Carolyn Stewart-Olsen (his former press secretary and director of strategic communications), or Doug Finley (husband of Harper's Human Resources Minister, former director of political operations for the Conservative Party, and national campaign director for the 2006 and 2008 elections).

While the Senate has been attributed with "sober second thought" that doesn't always follow strict party divisions, it has remained as a long-contested Red vs. Blue scoreboard where Prime Ministers try to take the upper hand, and ensure the success of legislation passed by their government in the House of Commons. Harper's recent picks guarantee continued representation of the Conservative mindset in parliament, even if the next federal election results in another party taking over the lower house.

Though the calls for senate reform became a staple in Canadian politics almost as soon as the Senate was founded, action on the issue has been somewhat of an anomaly. Harper has been one of the most prevalent voices of reform in recent years, and it's for this reason that his opponents cried hypocrisy.

Those accusations rang out from across the country against Harper, who once said "[Canadians] are ashamed the prime minister continues the disgraceful, undemocratic appointment of undemocratic Liberals to the undemocratic Senate to pass all too often undemocratic legislation."

This, of course, was quoted before his election in 2006, and his record-setting 27 appointments to the "undemocratic Senate" in a 12-month period. The rhetoric offered for his most recent appointments was oddly familiar, claiming that "it's unacceptable for unelected senators appointed by a different government to block the will of the people" — the will of the people, in this case, being the legislation of his minority government.

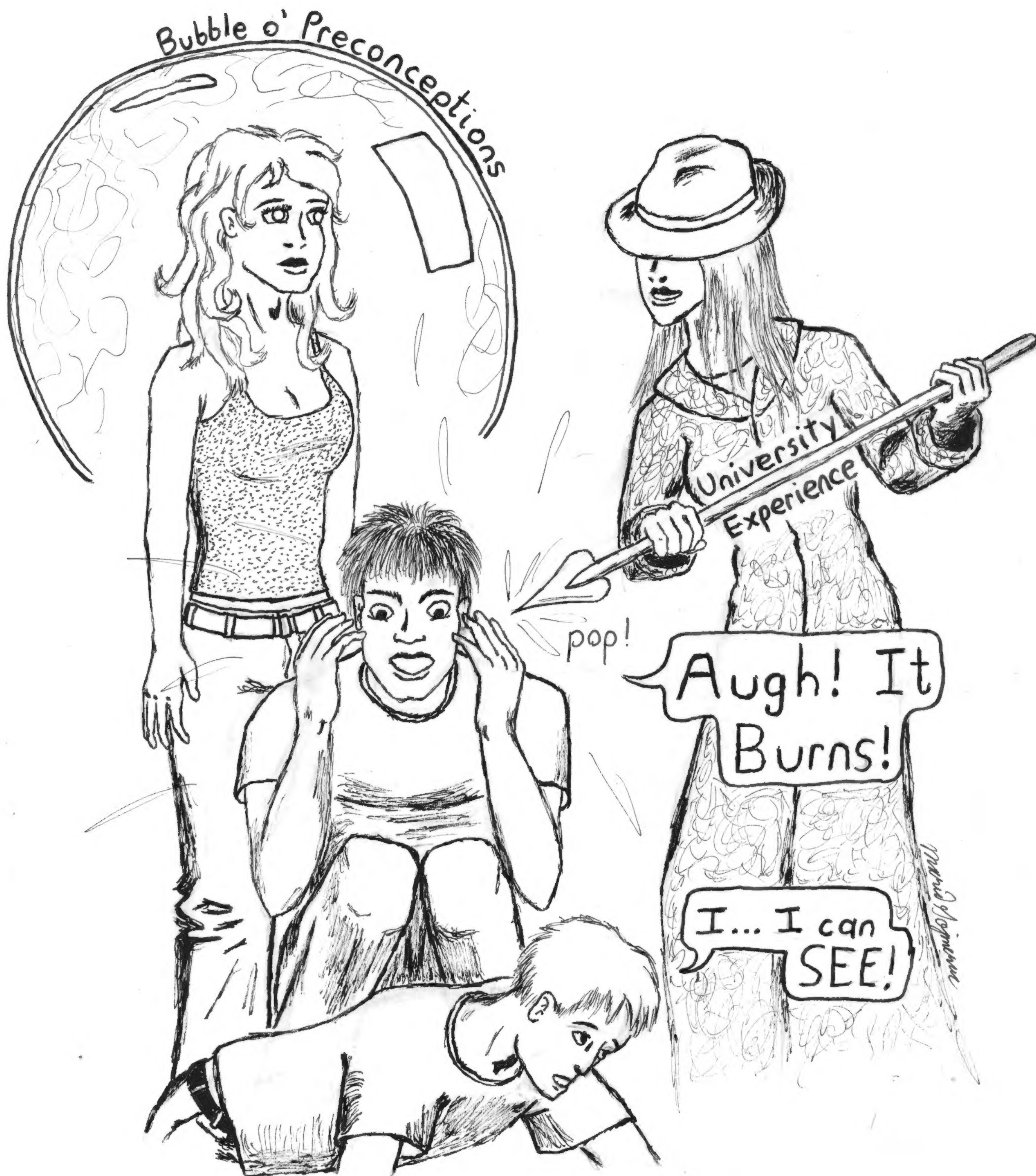
Harper could lose power in the next federal election, but his 27 unelected nominees will still be cashing their six-figure cheques and blocking the legislation of a government that didn't appoint them. And though the double standard Harper evidently sets for himself may be hard to defend, he would be political dead weight if he made his senate appointments by any other method.

He's simply making the best decision within the confines of the system he has to work with. Though he would be keeping his word by appointing only elected senators, he isn't obligated by any legislation to do so. It's in the interest of his political goals to stack the deck in his favour while he still can, and the nature of the Senate makes this possible — even advisable. If critics of the Senate want to gain credibility amidst the squabble of inter-party bickering that is Canadian politics, they need to ignore the names of nominees and start revamping the Senate's role.

The situation's always the same in this case: the fact that senators are appointed for life is a built-in guarantee that no matter who appoints them, they make up a legislative group with little accountability to the electorate. The Prime Minister's approval implies an agreement based on what nominees have already done; theoretically, once in power, they'll continue to represent the interests that got them there.

If the will of the people is truly what Harper cares about, as he claims, he should go against his own partisan interests and actually lead the transformation of the Senate, rather than paying lip-service to the idea only when it's in his best interest. Political priorities and social attitudes are constantly changing and advancing. With history books to tell us about the policies of past governments, we don't need the Senate to do the same. Any governing body worthy of being considered legitimate must represent the ongoing evolution of Canadian values, not remain an insurance policy for those clinging to the dusty ideological relics held when they were in power.

JONATHAN TAVES  
Deputy News Editor



MARIE GOJMERAC

## LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

### Behold my brilliant nuclear satire, readers

Your issue of Friday, November 3 disclosed that a "University Emergency Measures Committee" headed by Lt.-Col. E. W. Cormack had been set up on campus. Numbered amongst its responsibilities was the "evacuation of key personnel should an immediate warning occur."

I would like to inquire just who these "key personnel" are. Presumably they could not be the University administrators because, if Edmonton were reduced to a radioactive rubble and students and faculty members vaporized, there would not be much left in the way of a university to administer.

Presumably, they could not be students because, if the faculty members were vaporized, there would be no one to teach them, and they could not teach themselves because the laboratories and library went with the faculty members.

Perhaps Lt.-Col. Cormack will be

kind enough to inform as to who are the "key" personnel" who are to be evacuated should an immediate warning occur. My guess is that it must be the janitorial staff so that we are at least sure of a good clean-up after the bomb.

*Ed. Note — Could it be that perchance the Professore Packer wants to be a Keye Personn, and join the janitores and chimneysweepes?*

JOHN G. PACKER  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Botany  
November 10, 1961

### It's not funny if I have to explain it, you know

Your inane editorial comment appended to my letter which appeared in your issue of November 11th, suggests that I might wish to be amongst those evacuated in the event of an imminent nuclear attack.

I would like to point out that the question of my evacuation, or that of anyone else for that matter, does not arise. That it would be possible to evacuate any personnel in the interval between the warning of a nuclear attack and the explosion of the bomb is one of the

more idiotic suggestions propagated by the Emergency Measures Organization.

JOHN G. PACKER  
November 16, 1961

### Dewey's Decimate System

In my everlasting humble opinion, the changes made to Friday's do not substantiate a sixteen thousand dollar cost. Dewey's is certainly not a sixteen thousand dollar name. And in qualitative terms, new carpet, resurfaced tables, new drapes (half drapes) and new handrails do not a sixteen thousand dollar change make.

Why didn't Council use their limited money supply to change Friday's instead of cosmetically renovating it? Upon entering this establishment one still feels that one is only in a cafeteria that serves alcohol.

Why didn't Council panel up those damn mall-side windows so patrons could at least be tricked into thinking that they were no longer in that godforsaken hole of HUB?

Why not dim the lights? Why not pipe in something other than that imitation music spewed out by CJSR?

Dewey's is still as revolting as Friday's, and I for one will only be seen in there when I need outside

aid in turning my dry heaves into glorious puddles of stinking vomit.

HERMAN MALCHOW  
September 29, 1981

*From the Archives is a semi-regular feature where the w runs historical letters that we feel are of particular importance — or are just really hilarious. Also when we have no solid letters to the editor, which, come on, folks. It's the start of the school year; surely someone is incensed about something.*

*Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via paper aeroplane or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca. In addition, website comments may also be reprinted in the paper.*

*The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.*

*Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.*



# Between the lines of a font controversy



IAN  
PHILLIPCHUK

“The blogosphere angrily counters that Ikea is just ‘going cheap’ and that using Verdana is ‘a bit like using Lego to build a skyscraper, when steel is clearly a superior choice.’ Wait, *what?* Nope, I’m sorry. Go back to start, do not collect \$200 — you fail at metaphors.”

There’s a controversy brewing beneath the surface of the Internet society. The blogosphere is on fire with this most recent transgression, using words like “horrific” and declaring this to be “a sad day” have documented the downfall of life as we know it and railed against it in a desperate attempt to stem the tide of corruption. And little do you know, but right now, by reading this very article, you are perpetrating a crime against design. I am talking, of course, about fonts. No really, stop laughing.

It all started with the damned Swedish, as it always does. Ikea — furniture giant, home outfitter and pusher of that industrial drug known as the Allen Key — has kicked up a firestorm by changing the status quo. Here’s a simplification of everything we’re going through — in their print ads, where one up until recently had come to expect a nice customized version of Futura, has instead abandoned what has long been a symbol of Swedish engineering for that devil of American capitalism: the free Verdana font.

The shock and umbrage over this changing of a Swedish staple was caused because, as everyone knows, Verdana is a font designed solely for the purpose of displaying text on a computer screen. There, space can be conserved by eliminating some of the void between characters, so that a greater number can be displayed on the screen. When said characters are blown up in print ads, the text just becomes — to use the professional

term — “Comic-Sans-ugly.” Really, this is what has got people all in a twit? In case you don’t believe me as to the level of public interest in this story, the night the story broke, Verdana was (quite literally) a more popular topic on Twitter than the other breaking news of the evening: the death of some guy who spent 50 years in the American senate overshadowed by family tragedy — what’s his name again? Ted Something?



Honestly, if there’s anyone who should be outraged about this, it’s be me: as a Computing Science major and practicing übernerd, I know the value of a good font. But it’s still only a font, for crying out loud. Verdana is offered free from Microsoft to anyone who wants it, and if Ikea wants to save a couple of bucks by using it, then why not?

The blogosphere angrily counters that Ikea is just “going cheap,” and that using Verdana is “a bit like using Lego to build a skyscraper, when steel is clearly a superior

choice.” Wait, *what?* Nope, I’m sorry. Go back to start, do not collect \$200 — you fail at metaphors. In no way, shape or form is comparing Lego and steel anyway similar to Verdana and Futura, especially since your only complaint is that one *looks ugly*. That’s a poor comparison, a poor complaint, and besides, even if it was true, some of us might like to live in a skyscraper made of Lego. It’d certainly be easier to redecorate, and if it was hundreds of feet tall, I wouldn’t have to worry about my little sister knocking it over.

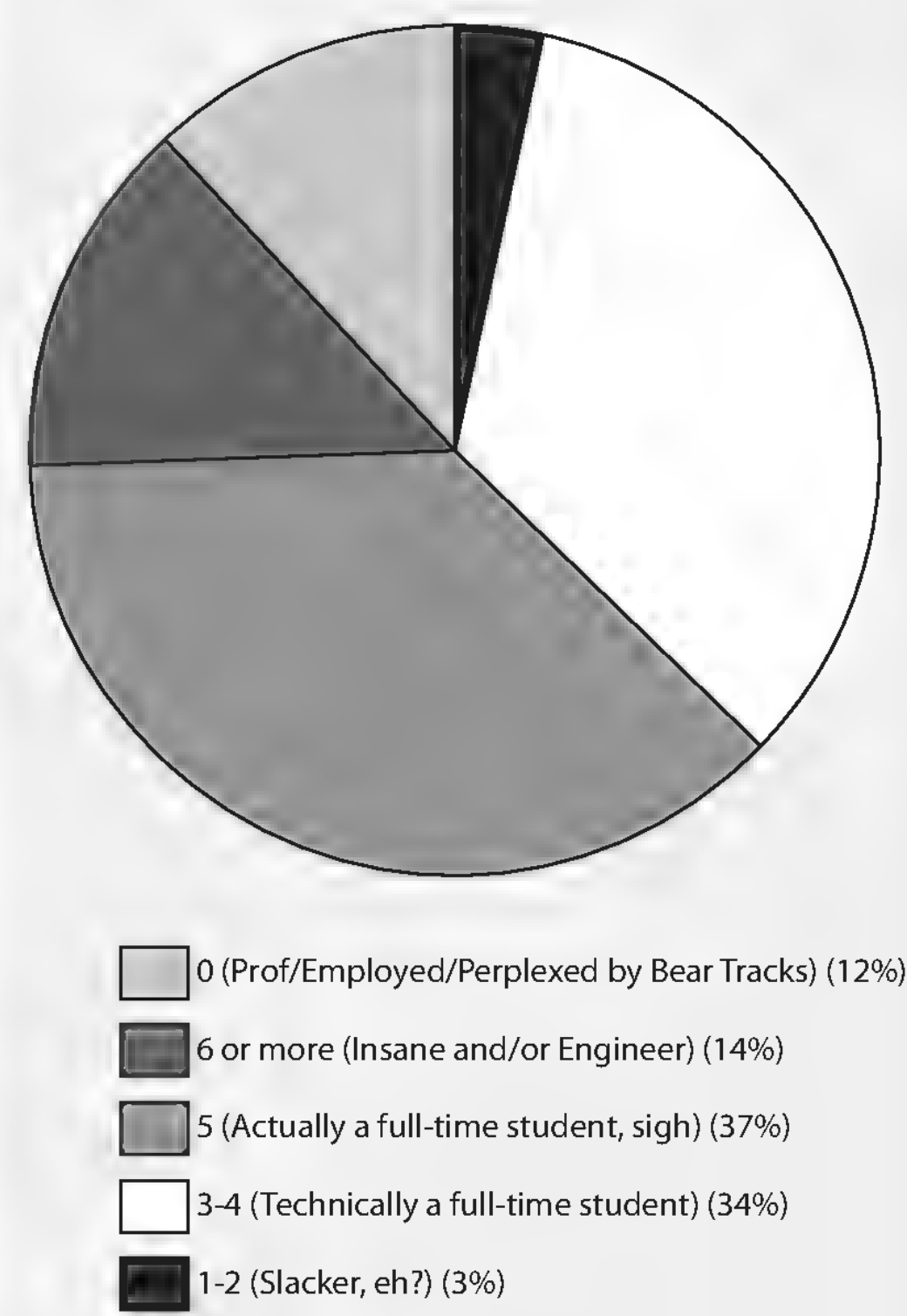
And what rag of a publication decided that the voices of those bloggers protesting the change needed to be heard by the world at large and thus wrote up this sad excuse for a controversy? Some dinky little magazine called *Time*.

In a time of global unrest, with economies still suffering under the weight of the recent recession and important governments in periods of transition and chaos, I cannot believe that *this* constitutes a story. It further blows my mind that a band of outraged Internet goons have also gone to the point of starting up a petition in order to try and force Ikea to switch back to Futura, when they could be doing something useful. Like realizing they are far too stupid to be allowed to live. Fonts have long since served many useful purposes to mankind, but “global debate topic” probably shouldn’t be among them.

I mean, in the immortal words of Albert Wingdings: folks, you just can’t make ♦❧❧❧ like this up.

## readerpoll

“How many courses are you registered in for the fall term?”



TOTAL RESPONSES: 59

THIS WEEK’S QUESTION:  
“How will the increased funding the City of Edmonton is putting into improving bike trails affect you?”

vote online at  
[thegatewayonline.ca](http://thegatewayonline.ca)


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## CALL FOR CONSULTATION

By the Dean Selection Committee,  
Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research

**DEAN SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:**

Lorne Babiuk  
[lorne.babiuk@ualberta.ca](mailto:lorne.babiuk@ualberta.ca)

Frank Peters  
[frank.peters@ualberta.ca](mailto:frank.peters@ualberta.ca)

Katherine Moore  
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Joan White  
[jwhite@ualberta.ca](mailto:jwhite@ualberta.ca)

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Aziz Rahman  
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Randy Lievers  
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Marc Arnal  
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Robin Everall  
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Frederick West  
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Pauline Paul  
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Russell Brown  
[rsbrown@ualberta.ca](mailto:rsbrown@ualberta.ca)

Janis Davis  
[janis.davis@ualberta.ca](mailto:janis.davis@ualberta.ca)

Dr. Mazi Shirvani’s term as Interim Dean will end June 30, 2010, and a selection Committee has been established in accordance with University regulations to begin the search for a new Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

At this point, the Selection Committee is calling for opinion on the leadership needs of the Faculty in the years ahead and on any other key issues. Individuals are urged to contact members of the Committee, or write to me as Chair, to express their views on priorities of the Faculty, current issues, and the future direction of the Faculty. All feedback may be shared with the Selection Committee. In order to facilitate the Committee’s work, please submit your comments by Monday, September 21, 2009.

In addition, individuals who may wish to stand as a candidate are invited to apply. Individuals may also nominate others who they feel would be suitable candidates. The Committee is now beginning to consider applications.

The selection of a Dean is vital to the success of the Faculty. I would therefore ask all interested persons, who have some stake in the outcome of this process, to take the time, even at this busy point in the academic year, to give some thought to the future of this Faculty. Your views are important to us. Thank you for your assistance.

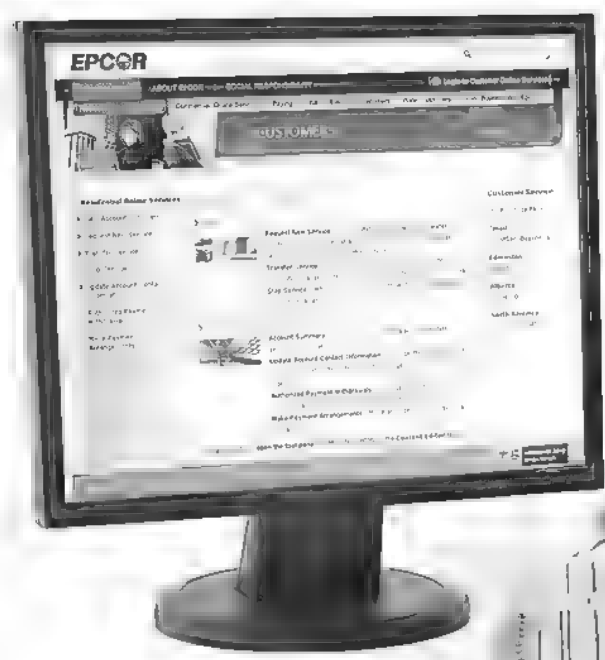
Please forward your comments to the address below or to any member of the Dean Selection Committee (contact information at left).

**Carl G. Amrhein**  
Provost and Vice-President (Academic)  
Chair, Dean Selection Committee  
2-10 University Hall  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB T6G 2J9  
E-Mail: [provost@ualberta.ca](mailto:provost@ualberta.ca)



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**EPCOR**

## VIDEO GAME ANTIQUITIES:

THE PRINCE  
OF ALL COSMOS



Wow, this kid had a thankless job. No sooner does he roll up the entire planet in a super-absorbent Katamari orb, than his father is yelling at him to do it again faster, stronger, better. It's a hard knock life for the little prince.

At Gateway Opinion, we assign much more feasible tasks than "roll up the sun." Come check us out; we have weekly meetings in SUB 3-04 on Tuesdays at 5pm. If you feel like, drop by and share your tales of everything you've picked up in your Katamari today.

**GATEWAY  
OPINION**

naaaaa na-na-na-na-na-na-na SINCE 1910

## BEST IN SHOW 3

THE BLACK DOG AND SLEEMAN PRESENT  
THE BLACK DOG MINI-MUSIC FEST



**SLATES**  
**MICHAEL RAULT**  
**MANRAYGUN**  
**DOUG HOYER**

**THEA VS. LOKI**  
**40 THIEVES**  
**COLLEEN BROWN**  
**BAND**

**SUNDAY SEPT 6**



BDF \$4 SLEEMAN PINTS 10425 - 82AVE  
**NO COVER**



# Skipping the Orientation express



MUSTAFA  
FAROOQ

**"In terms of the grand cosmic scheme of things, if you participated in Orientation, you just lost one week of your life. Trust me: when you look back, the strangers onstage with cymbals and lame choreography will not be one of your fondest memories."**

Greetings, all first-years bubbly with excitement! Welcome back, all other people who are most likely rather grumpy at the end of summer!

Those of us who are rather grumpy have decided, in our yearly public service announcement, to inform the first-years of a very important truth: you've been had! There's no easy way to say this, but things are not what they seem! You've been tricked about what university life is more thoroughly than Stéphane Dion was when he attempted to run on a "carbon-tax" campaign in Alberta. I refer, of course, to Orientation.

To those who attended Orientation, I would like to make a few things very clear — things you may not have heard because your Orientation leaders have had their sarcasm generators permanently disabled for a week. First of all, University campus is about to get very, very, cold. That means no sunshine, no plushy bear-mascots hopping around, no engineers dolled up in full pirate regalia, and no floats.

By your third week, when you walk across Quad, you will not be taken by second- and third-year students wearing questionable hats (who, by the way, could care less about you. They're only in it for the resumé bit). Instead, you'll be in

the inner chambers of CAB, utterly lost, trying to orient yourselves using a dollar-store compass and a poor hand-drawn map.

Secondly, University is not all fun and games. Come the first wave of midterms, you will no longer see freshmen playing Ultimate Frisbee (though that could be because the cold-as-ice weather will have kicked in and Ultimate Snowshoes would be more appropriate). Actually, by the end of the school year, stats indicate that between you and your three buddies, one will be gone. That's right: we have a 25 per cent drop-out rate. Think about that next time someone tries to sell you those restaurant-savings cards.

Thirdly, in terms of the grand cosmic scheme of things, if you participated in Orientation, you just lost one week of your life. Trust me: when you look back, the strangers onstage with cymbals and lame choreography will not be one of your fondest memories. Instead, you'll look back, wishing you'd spent that week with family, or sleeping, or playing a friendly game of soccer. Perhaps you'll wish that you'd just taken an early crack at the books. This is highlighted, of course, by the Mayan calendar stone, which predicted the end of that civilization in 1519 and currently predicts that the world is ending in December 2011.

So I would highly suggest making the most of your remaining time.

Now, to those who were wise enough to avoid the ridiculous singing, raucous amusements, and plushy bears, I will offer you a few words of advice. In other words, I'm going to condense Orientation into five sentences. Get a pen.

To wit: HUB is on one end of campus, ETLC is on the other, and everything else is in between within ten minute walking distance. Using a map is a flawless way to find your classrooms, and can be obtained for free within SUB. Do not consume hot drinks from the Tim Hortons in CAB, as they consist of little more than a poor dilution of water and unknown black matter. Study hard, and don't study with friends. Finally, wear a warm winter coat. Congratulations, you're now on equal footing with those who just spent a week learning the same thing!

Alternatively, if you were one of those first-years that had the misfortune to be involved in the Orientation, don't worry. You can still transfer into Engineering, figure out how to rupture the space-time continuum, and travel back in time where you will spend the first week doing something useful. Just remember that despite what you've learned, your time machine will not look like a pirate ship.

## A guide to perpetrating random acts of violins

One young musician's quest to unravel the universal secrets of strings theory



DAVID  
JOHNSTON

because, seriously — I love the violin. In the way that children love puppies, or Week of Welcome loves needless lineups. Trouble is, it's very hard to envision how a *Violin Hero* controller would operate. (Where do the cables go? How the hell do I activate star power?) And after I got enough funny looks from fellow pedestrians watching me mangle an imaginary fiddle, I bit the bullet and made a resolution to learn the actual instrument.

It started out great; I purchased a shiny violin in January, and have been steadily plugging away on it ever since. "Steadily plugging away," of course, is a phrase here used to mean "Leaving it enclosed in its case for weeks on end, although I may occasionally remember its existence." Really, I couldn't help that my finances permitted either violin lessons or the violin itself, but not both. So I was left alone trying to figure out how to play the thing. Fortunately, I still had the best teacher a young virtuoso today could hope for — Wikipedia — and have been slowly assembling tricks and valuable insights into the universe of *pizzicato* (In English, "Pizza Cat").

Violins create sound by running a resin-dusted bow over wire strings wound tightly enough to choke a small magpie. This causes vibrations, which travel through the strings and echo through its hollow body to produce haunting, vibrant tones of musical delight. If you're me, the vibrations travel through the strings to produce harsh, strangled sounds like ... well, very much like a choking magpie, actually. I'm trying to let you hear me

as I am here, producing sounds that have my roommates pounding on the walls, often in time to the stranglings — I choose to pretend it's a form of applause.

But this is all because operating a violin isn't as straightforward as a drum set, (you hit it, and then noise!) or a piano (you press a key, and then noise!) or your dog (you hit it, and then noise!). There's a definite knack to playing a violin — a knack that I've been seeking for eight months. And I can now officially say, after countless hours of practice, that my violin certainly is very shiny.

Okay, so maybe the "no teacher" thing wasn't my best idea. In all seriousness, I'm not as sure as I seem. But I'm getting there, slowly, and am gradually improving my bowing and angling skills to produce occasional clear notes. There's still the doozy of finger positions, and am moving slow enough that I doubt I'll have mastered it by the end of the year (February, at least). But with the advent of the new semester, I'm feeling like it's a very turn-the-page era, and am hoping for the best via a breakthrough of musical talents, resolving to schedule more and more practice time. My roommates will be thrilled.

And if that doesn't work, then I'll buckle down and get an actual teacher, because I'm going to wrap my head around the strings one way or another. Of course, if they'd just release *Violin Hero* already, then the tutorials would be all I'd need. Get on that, Activision — if I don't master this thing soon, it's your fault.



# U of a ski club

**Kokanee**  
GLACIER FRESH BEER



**BACKSIDE**  
TOURS

**OIL CITY ROADHOUSE**

**vinyl**  
RETRO DANCE LOUNGE

**ROCK STARS**  
NIGHTCLUB

**THE BANK**  
ULTRALOUNGE

**Lucky Ki**  
dance pub

**THE PINT**  
PUBLIC HOUSE

**Pawn Shop**

**Filthy McNasty's**

**OIL CITY ROADHOUSE**

**THE RANCH**

**THE RANCH**

**HUDSONS**  
CANADIAN PUB HOUSE

**IRON HORSE**  
WATERLOO COUNTRY CLUB

**dirty pretty**

**PROHIBITION**

**The Billiard Club**  
LIVE LOUNGE PLAY

**SUITE 69**

**PACESETTER**  
SKI & SNOWBOARD

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- A ski / snowboard / social group
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20% off reg., or priced food items

**Filthy McNasty's Pub**  
10% off reg., or priced food items

**Hudsons (All 4 Locations)**  
20% off reg., or priced food items

**Billiards Club**  
10% off reg., or priced food items

**Julos Barrio**  
10% off reg., or priced food items

**Prohibition**  
10% off reg., or priced food items

**Woolly Bullys**  
15% off reg., or priced food items

**PRIORITY ENTRANCE AND NO COVER BEFORE 11PM AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS! \*\* Subject to capacity \*\***

Oil City Roadhouse  
Rock Stars Nightclub  
Vinyl Retro Dance Lounge  
The Bank Ultralounge  
Lucky 13 Dance Pub  
Pawn Shop  
Suite 69  
Squires  
Cook County  
Iron Horse  
Dirty Pretty  
The Attic

**BLACK DIAMOND RUN ♦**  
Priority entrance and \$10 CASH before 11PM at the following location! \*\* Subject to capacity \*\*

Ranch Roadhouse  
Union Hall  
Oil City Pubcrawls  
Receive \$150 off your pubcrawl package.

**Kokanee**  
GLACIER FRESH BEER

**BACKSIDE**  
TOURS

**OIL CITY ROADHOUSE**

**Lucky Ki**  
dance pub

**THE PINT**  
PUBLIC HOUSE

**HUDSONS**  
CANADIAN PUB HOUSE

**IRON HORSE**  
WATERLOO COUNTRY CLUB

**dirty pretty**

**PROHIBITION**

**THE BILLIARD CLUB**  
LIVE LOUNGE PLAY

**SUITE 69**

**PACESETTER**  
SKI & SNOWBOARD

**UNION**

[www.uofaskiclub.ca](http://www.uofaskiclub.ca)

**OIL CITY ROADHOUSE**

For The first time ever we've amped up our legendary kickoff party, because 1 day just wasn't enough. You've now got 3 days to experience some ski club love.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

U of A Ski Club presents, in association with Backside Tours and Oil City Roadhouse an evening of ski movies, We'll be showing a new Matchstick Film as well as some sweet vintage ski films. That will lead into Welcome Back Wednesday, a night of drinking and debauchery not to be missed.

### THURSDAY NIGHT:

In Association with Kokanee, U of A Ski Club will be doing massive prize giveaways. Highlight of this will be a trip for 4 to Marmott! We'll give the prizes away earlier in the night before it gets too crazy. After the prizes are all given out we'll tear it up with Rock Hard Thursdays at Oil City Roadhouse with The Bear.

### FRIDAY NIGHT:

Kick Off Party 2009, words cannot do this night justice, but I'll try. With the help of Kokanee watch as Oil City is transformed into a winter wonderland full of drunken ski club members. It will be a night you'll never forget, but unfortunately due to the effects of alcohol...you will.

### CORPORATE SPONSORS:

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Sunshine  
Crown/Soco



# SU Who's Who?

For (almost) as long as there have been undergrads at the U of A, there's been a Students' Union to represent them. Founded 100 years ago in 1909, the SU is many things to many people: business owner, service provider, advocacy group, and occasional thorn in the side of the University administration.

But while most of us have heard of the Students' Union, many undergrads wonder: just exactly what is it, what's it made of, and who's running the show? This week, the *Gateway* tracks down the answers to your questions — as well as answers to questions you haven't even thought of yet.

Written by  
Lucas Wagner

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Students' Union Executive Committee's job is right there in the name: they're tasked with executing the orders and rules of the Students' Union and its legislative body, Students' Council (more on that in a bit). The five elected members of the Executive Committee are voted into their posts in an annual election held each March.

### President: KORY MATHEWSON

The position of President is that of a fearless leader, responsible for setting the course of the democracy engine that is the SU. Much of Mathewson's job involves going around and negotiating with other politicians and powerful people to help make life better for you, the average undergraduate. The President is essentially the face of the Students' Union; if he's looking good, the SU's looking good.

#### What's your top priority as president this year?

My goal as Students' Union President is to ensure greater communication exists between students, student groups, faculty associations, alumni, faculty, administration, and the Students' Union. I want to ensure that every student can have a memorable and beneficial university experience.

#### What advice do you have to offer new students at the U of A?

I urge you to always expect wisdom and respect from your instructors. You will fall, but when you do, fall without apology. Be fearless and do not give up your passion. Focus on your dreams and get engaged at the University of Alberta. The Students' Union exists for the students, but we cannot act without your voices. We need to hear from you, to work with you, to create a world-class university. The extent to which you participate will be the measure of your rewards.

#### What's your favourite menu item at Room At The Top?

The Room at the Top Classic with Garden Salad.



### Vice President (Academic): LEAH TRUEBLOOD

The VPA's job is to convince the University that undergraduates have value beyond that of a simple tuition cash cow. Tuition, quality of instruction, textbook prices, and class sizes are all items in Trueblood's portfolio. This year is a special year for the VPA: the University is creating the sequel to Dare To Deliver, also known as the Academic Plan, and the SU is responsible for creating their own submission to the University's guiding document.

#### What's your top priority as VP (Academic) this year?

Working with the University, and students, to

put forward a bold vision for what an undergraduate academic experience could look like at a research intensive university.

#### What advice do you have to offer new students at the U of A?

Take all sorts of courses and try all sorts of new things! A university is an extraordinary and special place, so take advantage of it.

#### What's your favourite menu item at Room At The Top?

Chicken Fingers. (I asked to have my salary paid to me exclusively in chicken fingers!)



### Vice President (Student Life): NICK DEHOD

The Vice President (Student Life), despite rumours to the contrary, isn't just responsible for living large and planning parties: while events like September's Week of Welcome and January's Anti-Freeze are a large part of his portfolio, he's also in charge of the many student services provided by the SU: InfoLink, the Environmental Coordination Office of Students (ECOS), Safewalk, and Student Group Services, just to name a few. Dehod was also a part of the team that renegotiated the U-Pass this year, just in time for the fall semester.

#### What's your top priority as VP (Student Life) this year?

My top priority for this year is making sure that students are more aware of what the SU offers them, from our student services, to the Health Plan, to our epic week-long competition of physical, mental, and spiritual endurance,

Anti-Freeze (coming to you this January).

#### What advice do you have to offer new students at the U of A?

Get involved and don't let anyone tell you there's nothing to do on this campus. We have over 350 student groups at the U of A, the most of any Canadian University. We have volunteer and employment opportunities with our various student services in SUB. We have intramural basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, and so on. There's lots to do. And if after looking around you still can't find something that lines up with your own interests, go to Student Group Services in the Lower Level of SUB and start your own group.

#### What's your favourite menu item at Room At The Top?

I'd have to go with the Room at the Top Classic. It's classic.







Vice President (Operations & Finance): ZACH FENTIMAN

The VPOF represents the SU’s role as a business, and business-owner. He oversees the SU-run L’Express, Cram Dunk, SUBmart, and recently renovated Room at the Top. With the assistance of managerial staff, Fentiman is also responsible for the Students’ Union Building as a whole, including the recent SUB signage project, the upcoming renovations to the lower level, and calling in repair teams to fix the elevators after heavy abuse from RATT-goers. One of the VPOF’s most recent projects was successfully negotiating an agreement to keep struggling campus bar Dewey’s open, with the assistance of the Vice President (Student Life) and the Graduate Students’ Association.

**What’s your top priority as VP (Operations & Finance) this year?**  
“If I were to choose only one goal to be my top priority, it would be the development of a comprehensive SUB expansion plan in order to

guide any major capital improvements to the building. It’s going to involve a lot of discussion and dialogue with students and other stakeholders. Stay tuned!”

**What advice do you have to offer new students at the U of A?**  
“The University experience involves more than classroom learning. In my first year, I certainly regret not being more engaged with the campus community. Take a chance and join a student group or connect with others in your faculty.”

**What’s your favourite menu item at Room At The Top?**  
“The new Blue Cheese & Bacon Burger has served me well so far. Hopefully each item on the menu has the potential to be someone’s favourite — if you don’t like something, send me an email!”

Vice President (External): BEVERLY EASTHAM

The VPX portfolio is devoted to advocating outside the world of campus, all the way from the municipal level to the national level. Past VPXs were instrumental in negotiating the U-Pass with Edmonton Transit, while in more recent years, some have focused on broadening their horizons with heightened involvement at the provincial level in the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS, which Eastham currently chairs), and at the national level with the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA).

The SU’s involvement in CAUS plays a crucial role in the price of undergraduate tuition, as the amount of money the province provides to the U of A determines how much enrollment costs have to be raised in order to make up for any shortfalls in the University’s budget. As for CASA, they did get to meet with the Prime Minister recently, so here’s hoping that’ll eventually give us some trickle-down benefits.

**What’s your top priority as VP (External) this year?**  
“Ensuring that student financial assistance remains strong for students throughout the current period of economic uncertainty. Currently, all provincial

ministries are being asked to look for areas where spending can be cut, due to the large provincial deficit and it’s critical that this does not impact the student financial aid portion of provincial spending. Successful graduates from our University will drive our economic growth during the recovery period and beyond, and it is critical that they are provided with the resources they need to successfully complete their degrees.”

**What advice do you have to offer new students at the U of A?**  
“Worry enough about your marks, but don’t stress about them so much that you miss out on what else campus has to offer. There are hundreds of different ways to get involved, and it will be the friends and memories you make while you are here that will make the biggest impact on your life after you leave campus.”

**What’s your favourite menu item at Room At The Top?**  
“I hear they’re serving sweet potato fries up there now, but I’d probably have to say the Teriyaki Chicken Burger.”



STUDENTS’ COUNCIL

Of course, there’s more to the SU than the Executive Committee. Students’ Council is the legislative arm of the Students’ Union, and is the ultimate authority for enacting SU bylaws and making decisions. In addition to the six Executive Committee members, Council is made up of 32 councillors, consisting of representatives from each faculty on a representation-by-enrollment basis. Larger faculties such as Arts and Science have six councillors, but each of the 15 faculties have at least one seat in Council. (Whether those seats are filled or not is another story; an upcoming by-election is being held on September 24–25 to fill vacancies in Education, Nursing, Open Studies, and Faculté Saint-Jean.) Regular elections for councillors occur on March 18–19, right after the executive elections.

Apart from the executives and councillors, Students’ Council has two other members: Craig Turner, the Speaker, brings order to Council and prevents any food fights from breaking out — or, at least, limits them to the provisions for food fights permitted in Robert’s Rules.

Board of Governors Representative Steven Dollansky sits on both Students’ Council and the University Board of Governors. Along with the President, his job is to provide a student voice on the University’s highest administrative decision-making panel. (The BoG Representative is elected to his post at the same time as the Executive Committee.)

GENERAL FACULTIES COUNCIL

General Faculties Council (GFC) is essentially

Students’ Council’s big brother: it’s the major legislative body of the University. While the Board of Governors deals with all University matters from operations to budgeting to ancillary services, GFC is focused on the University’s academic policies, and matters surrounding them: exam schedules, the GPA system, and even matters such as what words go into the convocation pledge are decided here. GFC councillors are composed of a mix of representatives from undergraduate students (elected during Council elections in March), graduate students, and both academic and non-academic staff.

**SU ELECTIONS**

All these vice presidents, councillors, and other representatives have to get elected to their post somehow. This year, SU elections are overseen by Chief Returning Officer (and Gateway alumna) Jennifer Huygen. The CRO is responsible for setting voting locations and dates, overseeing election operations, and ensuring all candidates play by the rules. Penalties for not abiding by Bylaw 2000, the rulebook for SU elections, range from campaign budget deductions to disqualification.

This year is also an important year for the Elections Office: after a rash of disqualifications arising from unclear wording in Bylaw 2000 — many of which were overturned by the SU’s judicial arm, the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement (DIE) Board — Students’ Council has struck up a Bylaw 2000 Review Committee, on which the CRO sits as a non-voting member.



significant digits

Size of the 2009/10 Students’ Union Budget:	\$9.97 million
Amount collected for SU services and operations per student per term:	\$35.43
Revenue collected from SU businesses per year:	\$4.9 million
Number of seats on Students’ Council:	40
Number of seats occupied by students on General Faculties Council:	41
Number of seats in the Board of Governors occupied by students:	2



## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

### Datarock

With Esser, DJ Degree, and Warrior Music  
Monday, September 6 at 9 p.m.  
Starlite Room (10030-102 St.)  
Tickets at the door

The two members of Datarock hail from Norway, a country that has clearly come a long way in a mere millennium. Feared throughout the world due to the Vikings' hankering for village pillaging, the Norwegians have since traded in their horned helmets, woollen vests, and longboats for wrap-around black sunglasses, red track-suits, and sweat-soaked electrobeats. The duo released their third dance-punk album *Red* in June, which featured "True Stories" a song crafted entirely from Talking Heads album titles, yet didn't feature a single "Psycho Killer" reference. *Qu'est-ce que c'est?*

### Styx

Wednesday, September 9 at 8 p.m.  
River Cree Casino (300 East Lapotac Blvd. Enoch, Alberta)  
\$49.50-59.50 at ticketmaster.ca

A band that I was convinced was already floating down the river that bears their name, Styx was one of the most popular rock groups of the 1970s and '80s. Responsible for several triple-platinum albums, as well as making sure that the public knows at least one phrase in Japanese, the group has been pleading with people for over 30 years now to "Come Sail Away" — a song that teaches children the valuable lesson that if long-haired 60-year-old men ever show up in a yacht and promise them a free and tranquil life out in the virgin sea, they should always be trusted.

### The Films of Quentin Tarantino

Featuring *Reservoir Dogs*, *Pulp Fiction*, *Kill Bill Vol. 1 & 2*, and *Grindhouse*  
Every Sunday in September until the 20th, starting at 2 p.m.  
Metro Cinema (9828-101A Ave)

Once upon a time in the early '90s, a little-known independent filmmaker named Quentin Tarantino, who had previously only directed a short black-and-white feature called *My Best Friend's Birthday*, released a relatively obscure indie flick called *Reservoir Dogs*. Like a lot of independent cinema, it failed miserably and has since been lost to the annals of history, save for a few critics who dubbed it "the greatest independent film of all time."

But the plucky director wouldn't give up. After scraping together funding from a couple brothers named the Weinsteins and hiring a few no-name actors like John Travolta, he made *Pulp Fiction*, a small-budget movie so wildly unsuccessful that it grossed just under \$220 million worldwide. Unable to find work, and with only an Oscar for Best Screenplay in hand, the starving filmmaker soldiered on in his quest for fame, begging financiers and local cinema owners to give his sad little "two-part spaghetti western samurai revenge story starring Uma Thurman" a chance — to which they would shake their head with pity.

It's believed that Tarantino is now living in abject poverty somewhere in the Hollywood Hills after never being able to break into the mainstream. His latest work, a postmodern revisionist history piece about Jewish vigilantes killing Nazis, remained number-one at the box office for only one paltry week after receiving coverage from a scant 98 per cent of North American press outlets. But recently, film connoisseurs have begun to rediscover and appreciate this independent artist's contributions to cinema, and now Metro Cinema gives you the chance to finally experience the perseverance and struggle of this almost-famous — Hollywood's Little Engine That Couldn't.

JOHN KMECH  
Wanna see me flex?

# Taking Back Sunday happy to be *New Again*



## musicpreview

### Taking Back Sunday

With Billy Talent, illScarlett, Girl Talk, and Franz Ferdinand at Sonic Boom  
Saturday, September 5, starts at 11 a.m.  
Edmonton Northlands Grounds  
Tickets \$49.50-102.90

BRYAN SAUNDERS  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Matthew Fazzi is no stranger to changing direction. Fazzi — the guitarist, back-up vocalist, and newest member of the New York-based rock band Taking Back Sunday — was formerly a member of Facing New York, a prog-rock band from California.

Last year, when TBS parted ways with then-guitarist Fred Mascherino, Fazzi lept at the opportunity to jump into Mascherino's empty shoes. As a member of Facing New York, he'd toured alongside TBS before, and was already familiar with the band and their music. The transition from one band to the other couldn't have been any easier.

"They gave me a lot of freedom to be myself, and to have a voice, and to suggest things," Fazzi recalls. "I think they'd had enough time off between records and touring cycles and stuff — and they'd been through so much personally — that when I came in, everyone just thought, 'Let's start totally fresh. Let's get rid of all the rules and just try everything.'"

And they did just that. Released earlier this summer, Taking Back Sunday's latest record, *New Again*, marks a notable departure in sound from what TBS fans have grown accustomed to. While some fans have welcomed the band's renaissance, others have been less enthusiastic.

"Some people were so attached to the first few records that they can't listen to this album for what it is," says Fazzi, with a tone of understanding.

"The biggest deal when we were writing this record was that we kind of wiped the slate clean," he continues. "And so there are a lot of different types of things — like maybe it'd be the chorus — and we'd say, 'Why don't we have an R&B chorus? Or why don't we try a different time signature here and there? Or why don't we have this ...' We were thinking of just trying everything and the quest is for the ultimate song."

"When I was in [Facing New York] before, we used to do a lot of really weird song arrangements and time signatures and stuff, so I kind of wanted to kind of push the band in a few different directions on this album — and that's where some of that stuff shines through. I think that was my biggest contribution to the record."

The fact that they're playing at Sonic Boom in Edmonton this Saturday is yet another, more literal change in direction for the members of TBS. A bit of a last minute addition to their itinerary, the band's Edmonton stop represents a significant detour from the group's ongoing tour with fellow rockers Blink-182.

"It was kind of added on a day off of the Blink tour," Fazzi chuckles. "We're literally flying in for the show in Edmonton, and then flying right out again and leaving — so it's gonna be a time crunch. But it's a great opportunity [and] there are a lot of really good bands playing."

**“The biggest deal when we were writing this record was that we kind of wiped the slate clean.”**

MATTHEW FAZZI  
GUITARIST, TAKING BACK SUNDAY

Throughout the interview, Fazzi is notably upbeat and well-humoured — even on the verge of bubbly at times, despite the fact that he's been hobbling around on crutches for the last month and a half. As he cheerfully explains, a quick change in direction on stage may have had something to do with that.

"It was the first show after we got overseas for our UK and Europe tour and it was just a little freak accident," he laughs. "A couple of songs into the set, I just took a weird step and I felt something kind of happen to my foot, and I didn't know what it was. I went to the E.R. in Belfast the next day and that's when they told me it was broken!"

Wearing what he and his bandmates appropriately describe as "the mega-boot," Fazzi shrugs his injury off.

"They gave me this new space-boot looking thing, and it does a pretty good job of keeping my foot in place. So, I can at least ditch the

crutches when we play live, and it's not too bad. But, obviously, it's not the most ideal situation."

So does Fazzi see any more changes of direction planned for him or the band?

"I'm not sure," he admits. "Musically, I'm kind of trying to figure that out. I think that for us, maybe the next frontier is maybe taking advantage of the fact that we have several people in the band that can sing.

"I think that, really, vocals are the next frontier for the band, trying to do something really interesting with the vocals and incorporate some harmonies — maybe get back to some of the back-and-forth vocal things. It's kind of hard to say. We've sort of opened the gates to being able to a lot of different things, which is the ultimate goal."

## TBS TWEETS

### @tbsnewagain

"Watching a junkie shadowbox cars with his eyes closed in the middle of avenue A. No one stops, no one notices. I love new york. -MR"

"in my experience, I try and stay away from bears.-adam"

"One of the rubber stoppers on my crutches ripped on the bottom and now I'm making sparks all over the parking lot. Camden where you at!!-FAZ"

"Cabbie wins quote of the day. "A displaced cowboy is just about the most unemployable SOB here in .ersey" referring to himself. -MR"

"Overheard in catering "The lamb isnt too lamb-y...try it". -MR"

"Staying at the Four Seasons is like being 'Annie' at Daddy Warbucks' house. Its a level of fancy TBS is not used to. -MR"

**To win a pair of tickets to Sonic Boom, send your name and phone number to:**  
contests@gateway.ualberta.ca  
Winner will be randomly selected.



# Policing the Fringe favours the facts over feeling

After 20 years of faithfully serving the RCMP, Charles Scheidman shares a collection of his stories

## bookreview

### Policing the Fringe: The Curious Life of a Small-Town Mountie

By Charles Scheidman

Published by Harbour Publishing

SEAN STEELS

Senior News Editor

Your average city-dweller might describe the day-to-day happenings of a small-town mountie in predictable terms: slow-paced, relaxed, full of time to run some chores while patrolling — and its undoubtedly true that many of these terms apply.

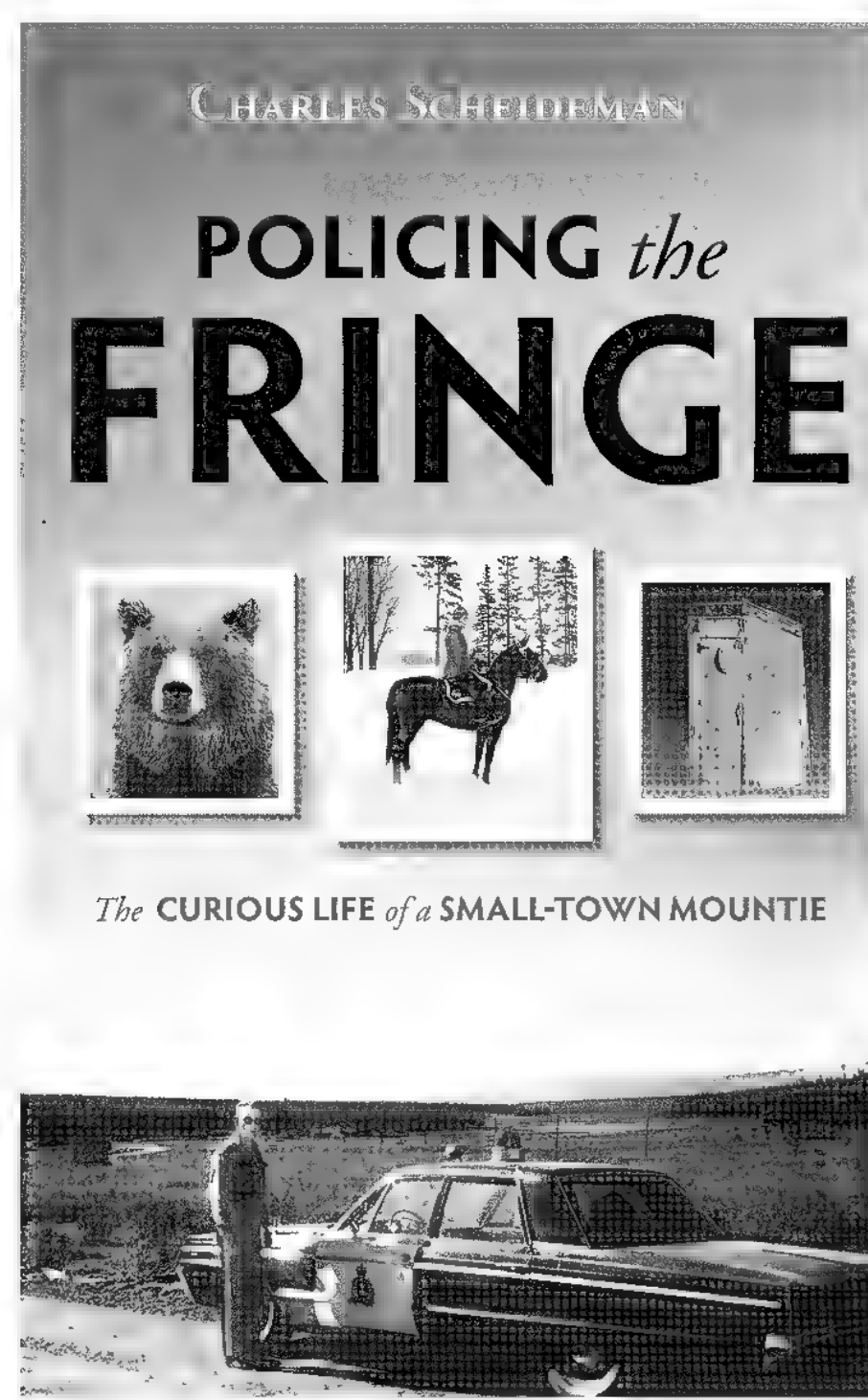
But it's easy to forget that all police work, regardless of venue, is occasionally punctuated by a momentary blaze of insanity, screwball characters, and of course, tragedy.

In his book *Policing the Fringe*, Charles Scheidman, a 20-year veteran of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, catalogues his forays into the strange as a man entrusted with patrolling the labyrinthine and endless valleys of British Columbia's interior.

Scheidman tells his tales with little or no filtering of his personality. He admits with gruff honesty in the book's foreword that he has done his best to capture the facts as he saw them and to leave his political correctness at the door. In many respects, this is useful and beneficial to the collection.

Scheidman has an eagle's eye for the facts in each case, and whether he's pulled them from his mind or from dusty police reports, he recounts his time in B.C. with a sharp and telegraphic style that feels suitable for a veteran of what he's seen.

He moves through his stories with efficiency, parsing important details and keeping a fast pace that lends the stories fluidity.



**Scheidman tells his tales with little or no filtering of his personality. He admits with gruff honesty in the book's foreword that he has done his best to capture the facts as he saw them and to leave his political correctness at the door. In many respects, this is useful and beneficial to the collection.**

But at the same moment, the martial and quantitative quality of his prose does as much to build a barrier between readers as it does to create a familiarity with his character. He wields his pen like a double-edged sword, pouring his style, his voice, and his jaded wit wholeheartedly into each tale, but the distance and formality of his personality equally prevents any connection with him.

The push-pull dynamic of Scheidman's storytelling dogs the reader until his self-imposed subjectivity blends into a chilled indifference. The matter is occasionally worsened when, after what feels like a cold recital of facts, his stories vanish into obscurity, abandoning their plot and their mystery with barely so much of a "and that's the facts" concluding paragraph.

But Scheidman's cliffhangers have little to do with storytelling momentum. He employs them at inopportune moments when the reader must certainly be hungry for a filler to remaining plot holes. Satiation never arrives though, and the stories' critical details, not their tantalizing possibilities are axed.

While some of his funnier tales, such as one concerning an alcoholic and his plus-sized, abusive wife, are unhindered by his reserve, the tragedies of his past are sorely affected.

After some 40-odd years of reflection (20 of those off the force) readers might expect some conclusion, some meditation on the nature of life and death, and on the daily trials and inner conflicts of rural policework. The most Scheidman, in all his stoic reserve, ever gives up is a dollop of sympathy, and a side-long, wistful, and brief wonder at the mysteries of what he has seen.

But Scheidman has delivered nothing less than promised. For all of his gruff distance, his portrait of both himself and the world he inhabited are reflected with clarity and precision — although in place of precision, a little heart wouldn't have hurt.



## albumreview

### Two Hours Traffic

Territory

Bumstead Records

LANCE MUDRYK

Arts & Entertainment Staff

Professors always emphasize that essays should have a strong introduction, and this advice is taken for Two Hours Traffic's new album, *Territory*, with the excellent opening track "Noisemaker." Beyond that, though, the rest of the songs begin so timidly that they fail to capture much excitement.

After producing their 2007 breakthrough album, *Little Jabs*, the band returned to the studio to create this darker, though less catchy follow-up. "Wicked Side," "Painted Halo," and "Happiness Burns," are the best songs on the album, though many other tracks feel bogged down in the melancholy tone.

"Territory," is one of the album's better showings, but in comparison to *Little Jabs*' best songs, however, there feels like a lack of confidence on the group's part to push the energy level. Many of the songs feel like they've been stumbled into without much direction, while a few recover by the chorus. On top of that, several songs suffer due to their length. "Drop Alcohol" may be one of the best songs on the album, but it takes it almost half the song before one realizes its merits.

Professors also emphasize the importance of ending on a good note. Sadly, the album fails on two fronts here. "Sing a Little Hymn," the last song on the album, is the least enjoyable — not to say the last song has to be the best, but no album should end on a low note. The choice to end "Noisemaker" with a bunch of random noises for title's sake just cause the song seem worse than it really is.



## CONTINUING UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS



## Reward your success with U of A Scholarships

The Student Awards Office has several scholarship competitions with fall deadlines. Each competition has its own set of criteria and eligibility requirements as outlined in the following descriptions.

For more information on these and other competitions please visit our website at [www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards](http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards) or the Student Awards Office at 120 Administration Building.

### Jason Lang Scholarship

Applicants must be Alberta residents who have achieved a minimum GPA of 3.2 on ★24 in their previous year of studies (September 2008 to April 2009).

**The deadline to apply is September 15, 2009**

### University of Alberta Undergraduate Academic Scholarship Competition

There are approximately 300 awards available through this competition. The awards range in value from \$500 to \$3,000 with some being Faculty specific and some open to students in any Faculty.

**The deadline to apply is October 30, 2009**

### Rhodes Scholarship

Applicants must be Canadian citizens or living in Canada; have been born between October 2, 1985 and October 1, 1991; and have received an undergraduate degree before attending Oxford (except medical students).

Applications are available at the Student Awards Office.

**The deadline to apply is October 1, 2009**

### Undergraduate Leadership Awards Competition

There are approximately 50 available through this competition. The awards range in value from \$500 to \$20,000 with some being Faculty specific and some open to students in any Faculty.

**The deadline to apply is October 30, 2009**

### Important Reminders:

1. Applications for the Jason Lang Scholarship, Undergraduate Academic and Undergraduate Leadership Competitions will be made through Bear Tracks.
2. Payments will be applied directly to student accounts which can be viewed on Bear Tracks.
3. Awards will be applied towards tuition and fees prior to the deadline for paying tuition and fees; any remaining amount will be refunded. All awards accepted in the Fall Term will be divided equally—half in the Fall Term and half in the Winter Term. All awards accepted in the Winter Term will be paid out in a single payment in the Winter Term.

Check [www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards](http://www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards) for important notices.



# LONG WEEKEND SUNDAY

## RED LIGHT GREEN LIGHT PARTY

### SUNDAY SEPT. 6

**\$3 DRINKS!**  
Doors @ 8PM



## OIL CITY ROADHOUSE

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**10736 JASPER AVENUE  
CORONA LRT STATION**

## Anti-bullying is Seventh Rain's opening act



### musicpreview

#### Seventh Rain

*With Benefit of a Doubt and Letters to Elise*

Friday, September 4 at 9 p.m.  
Starlite Room (10030-102 St)  
\$12 at the door

SARAH STEAD  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

With high school several years behind the members of Seventh Rain, it's tough to imagine the Calgary quartet would be that eager to go back. But over the past year and a half, they have — more than 50 times.

Since forming in high school in 2002, the band's mandate has been to reach out to bullied youth by performing at high schools across Alberta and giving presentations on the negative impact that even seemingly innocuous teasing can have. Two members of Seventh Rain, including Phil Grossi, the band's drummer, were picked on regularly, while the other two bandmates saw their close friends doing the taunting. As such, the topic is very close to everyone in the band.

"My bullying started when I was in grade three," remembers Grossi. "I was

a heavy kid and I had a weight issue for most of my life until mostly after high school. [ ... ] Going to the mall, just going anywhere would be a chore and [I'd] have to endure a barrage of beratement."

**"We're actually in the midst of making the anti-bullying presentation international."**

PHIL GROSSI  
DRUMMER, SEVENTH RAIN

Years later, the frustration in his voice is still clear, but veiled with optimism. The turning point for him came when he met Ryan Williams, the group's vocalist. Having recently abandoned a friendship with a bully, Williams was looking for a musically inclined friend to start jamming with. The pair rented a drum kit and Grossi's skills impressed Williams enough that they were soon talking about forming a band.

"We had a passion for music together, and we started the band just through being friends and realizing that we had a similar interest in music. It just kind of grew from there," he says.

Though Grossi eventually lost the weight and saw the bullying subside post-high school, he's remained committed to using his new status as a musician to further Seventh Rain's anti-bullying campaign.

Last fall, the band toured in Mexico, played for college and university campuses, and found that, even without a shared language, their message still translated.

"It was definitely an experience and I loved Mexico. We all did. We all had such a great time there and they were so receptive there," Grossi enthuses. "Playing the colleges, and just how the people reacted to foreign bands was incredible."

After successfully crossing one border, the band is already preparing to cross another — the 49th parallel, to be exact.

"We're working on getting into the U.S. We're actually in the midst of making the anti-bullying presentation international," he says excitedly. "We're in talks with the San Diego school district, and getting tour dates in there."

And while Grossi may be a pacifist at heart, there's still one area in which he's willing to allow a few verbal jabs to be exchanged — the never-ending sports feud between Edmonton and Calgary.

"That rivalry is a really fun rivalry. Let's be honest," he laughs.



AMELIA CURRAN  
HUNTER • HUNTER

### albumreview

#### Amelia Curran

*Hunter, Hunter*  
Six Shooter Records

DAVID JOHNSTON  
Opinion Editor

It's track number four of Amelia Curran's album that'll determine whether she lives or dies. Up to this point, the folksy chanteuse has been pleasant, quirky, even charming. She has the good sense to open with her best-produced song, "Bye Bye Montreal," though her lyrics have already run the gamut from intractable to irritatingly simplistic — the best example being the chorus of "Ah, Me," which consists of Curran repeating "Ah, me, I can see" 11,000 times, perhaps in an effort to prove that yes, she can indeed see.

And then comes "The Mistress," track number four, wherein she

stops pussyfooting around her style and kicks the listener in the back of the head. It's a stripped-down, unplugged epic poem where Curran runs through a perfectly rhymed eight-syllable stanza structure, seemingly without pause for memory or breath, for a solid three and a half minutes.

To be fair, she has a sweet voice, though the album seems determined to portray her as possessing of a severely limited vocal range. It's no small feat of engineering that she manages to maintain a narrative thread. At the same time, said thread is practically indecipherable, the

music is repetitive (albeit catchy), and Curran seems oddly dejected and pissed off the whole time, like she's being forced to sing while serving an eight-month prison term.

Your feelings on "The Mistress" will essentially reflect your feelings on the album as a whole. Like it? Great — the rest of the album is filled with sprawling lyrical odes, high-concept metaphors, and Curran safely batting in her strike zone of country-folk melodies. Hate it? Put down the disc, or you're in for more mangled figures of speech, ceaseless and often tuneless interludes, and Curran failing to realize that just because the album's called *Hunter, Hunter* doesn't mean she needs to construct songs that chase down the audience and rip out their enjoyment glands. Personally, I liked the album, though more as white noise than a multi-volume saga with dazzling rhymes.

Sorry you spent so long on those lyrics, Amelia.



# Room with a view and a side of fries

Lucas Wagner tries on food critic hat, gives RATT 1.5 thumbs up

## diningreview

**Room At The Top**  
Seventh floor, SUB

LUCAS WAGNER  
Online Editor

After months of renovations, Room at the Top (née RATT, a nickname eschewed in favour of one without negative connotations) has finally opened its elevator doors to campus. Situated as always on SUB's seventh floor, the campus bar has always been a favourite of students — leading many to wonder that if it ain't broke, why remodel it?

On first look, however, the revamp seems worth it. The oft-trodden floor has been replaced with polished concrete — and while potentially more dangerous, it's a definite improvement on the old RATT's grungy carpeting. There's a new paint scheme, along with a completely remodeled bar; but the most noticeable, and most appreciable improvement is the square tables. Gone are the unwieldy round tables of RATT past. While King Arthur may not be a fan, I find the new tables (along with new, unsunken chairs) to be a god-send. Overall, the Room's dining environment, while not completely perfect, is a definite improvement over the RATT of years previous.

Fittingly, the menu has undergone renovations of its own. While you'll recognize quite a few items from the old RATT (some with different names; the Room at the Top Classic is merely the RATT Classic with three more syllables), there's quite a few additions. The Beef Dip is a welcome newcomer to the "Something Else" category, even if the *au jus* was a bit lacking. There's a whole host of vegetarian options cribbed from the Dewey's menu, including the delightfully esoteric sweet potato fries and vegan chili — though it's a shame there's no meaty cousin. Existing menu items have been improved as well: the potato wedges are now much lighter



PETEYEE

and fluffier — if only I could say the same for the fries, which continue to run the gamut from limp and weak to exceedingly hard and crunchy.

There are many more beers on tap now, including my personal favourite from Amber's Brewing, Bub's Lunch Pail Ale. (There're plans to have a different Amber's beer on tap every month.) Additionally, there's the SU's yet-to-be-named "Brand X" beer, which I've personally given the groan-worthy nickname of "Students' Brew-nion."

Overall, the new Room at the Top is a hearty change for the better. While some may decry the venerable bar's move away from tradition, I've come to appreciate the changes that have been made. There's much in the new Room that's evolutionary, not revolutionary — and frankly, I'm happy that they haven't done anything ridiculous like add a buffet or hookah bar. The prices are still reasonably affordable, and the location's still convenient, and those are what make Room at the Top the reliable campus establishment that it is.

# QuantZ delivers new treat for gamers

## gamereview



**QuantZ**  
Published by Gamerizon  
Developed by Gamerizon  
Now available on Mac and PC

MIKE DADURAL  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

When it comes to casual puzzle games, titles such as *Bejeweled* and *Tetris* are usually the first ones that spring to mind. What these two titles have in common is that they both have the drop-down style of gameplay that many puzzle games contain and, with the exception of changing backgrounds, very static environments. But when you take the puzzle genre and leave it in the hands of Montreal-based Gamerizon, we're left with a very interactive and unique game called *QuantZ*.

Those expecting a story out of this game are out of luck. Like most puzzle games, *QuantZ* wasn't intended to be a story-oriented game. Though lacking a plot, the game still gives off a very ethereal and sci-fi atmosphere. When entering each level, or "world," the screen suddenly blurs out and flashes white as if we were warping to the level, which is always fun to watch as it sets the tone for the rest of the game.

The style of gameplay itself is what stands out most about *QuantZ*. You're given complete control of a fully 3D cube (via mouse), while at the same

time launching little marbles called "quantZ" (via spacebar) straight at it. The object of the game is to pair up four or more quantZ of the same color to help clear out the entire cube before you run out of time or quantZ. If you happen to pair them up in a certain formation, you can create a fireball that can help in clearing out similar-coloured quantZ on the cube — in turn, this can create more fireballs if done correctly. The more fireballs you chain together and the faster you clear the cube, the more bonus points you'll earn.

Besides the gameplay, the physics in the game are another aspect of *QuantZ* that is outstanding. Any quantZ that have not been frozen into place on the cube can be whipped around with a simple rotation of the cube. Depending on how fast you rotate it with the mouse, you can shift quantZ in any direction you please, adding this new level depth within the game.

With the in-game physics, there's a new strategic mechanic to the game. Instead of mindlessly whipping around the quantZ, you must skillfully control the speed at which you move the mouse to get that one quantZ into the spot you want, while at the same time keeping track of the other ones along the cube.

Ironically, the physics in the game, though adding an element of interest, are what holds the game back from being perfect. Learning how the physics work inside the game takes quite a bit of time, and players will often find themselves having to experiment endlessly with the mouse to get the right speed to whip the quantZ. While the game is geared both towards casual and hardcore gamers, it may scare some of the latter crowd. Those who are accustomed to playing these types of puzzle games will definitely enjoy *QuantZ* for what it is, but more hardcore gamers will find that there isn't a lot to this game regardless of the puzzle, strategy, and action game modes.

But these are just minor blemishes on an otherwise entertaining game, and they're quite easy to overcome. Though it can be difficult at times, many will find that *QuantZ* is a refreshing and fun game to add to the other titles that we've all grown to love.

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**By the Dean Selection Committee,**  
**Faculty of Arts**

**DEAN SELECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:**

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Dr. Daniel Woolf's term as Dean ended April 30, 2009, and a selection Committee has been established in accordance with University regulations to begin the search for a new Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

At this point, the Selection Committee is calling for opinion on the leadership needs of the Faculty in the years ahead and on any other key issues. Individuals are urged to contact members of the Committee, or write to me as Chair, to express their views on priorities of the Faculty, current issues, and the future direction of the Faculty. All feedback may be shared with the Selection Committee. In order to facilitate the Committee's work, please submit your comments by Friday, October 9, 2009.

In addition, individuals who may wish to stand as a candidate are invited to apply. Individuals may also nominate others who they feel would be suitable candidates. The Committee is now beginning to consider applications.

The selection of a Dean is vital to the success of the Faculty. I would therefore ask all interested persons, who have some stake in the outcome of this process, to take the time, even at this busy point in the academic year, to give some thought to the future of this Faculty. Your views are important to us. Thank you for your assistance.

Please forward your comments to the address below or to any member of the Dean Selection Committee (contact information at left).

**Carl G. Amrhein**  
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**Chair, Dean Selection Committee**  
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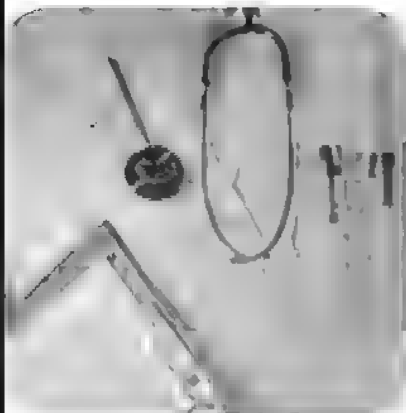
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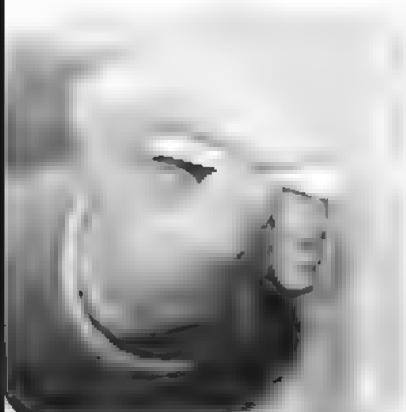
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# Eamon McGrath finds Peace(maker)

He's changed his backing band, but McGrath still considers his music a team effort

## musicpreview

### Eamon McGrath & Peacemaker

With Daniel Johnston  
Tuesday, September 8 at 7 p.m.  
Myer Horowitz Theatre  
\$26.50 at [ticketmaster.ca](http://ticketmaster.ca)

BEN SIR  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The first thing I notice inside the beige, early-'90s minivan is the breadbag full of guitar pedals. The musical assortment lay amidst a sea of discarded Lucky Lager cans, while the current course of straight gin passed from hand to hand above.

"You want some gin?" Eamon McGrath questions me.

"Eamon, you're too drunk. Better switch to wine," his drummer Jerf Sebastian respectfully advises.

After a short drive to acquire the aforementioned wine, my scribbler was already full of notes for my interview with the band.

Thankfully, Eamon McGrath and his backing band, Peacemaker, possess as much character as the van we sat in.

I was already familiar with bassist Lee Klippenstein and tubthumper Jerf (and his tycoon moustache) from their work in other local Edmonton bands such as The Falklands and Forty Thieves — two of what seem like almost a thousand groups that the three of them devoted their time and creativity to.

McGrath and Peacemaker are quick to exude a relaxed and mildly-intoxicated approach to their art, but this is not to be confused with a lack of dedication. Make no mistake: these are some busy boys.

McGrath is preparing for a self-booked solo tour of Europe, while the band readies themselves to not only open for Daniel Johnston, but to perform as the backing band for the early '90s sensation who counted Kurt Cobain as one of his dedicated fans.

The following night, Eamon McGrath will open for Johnston in Calgary, without Peacemaker. It's clear that McGrath and his backbeat love the spontaneous nature of live performance.

"The first Peacemaker show was in Calgary, and I showed the guys these songs earlier that day," McGrath explains, illustrating the bands authentic, albeit impulsive, passion for music.

Sebastian was scheduled to record



with another band in Vancouver on September 8, the day of the Johnston show. However, following the show offer, flights were rescheduled.

**"It's fun — when it stops  
being fun, you're doing  
something wrong"**

**EAMON MCGRATH**  
SINGER/SONGWRITER

When speaking of the upcoming opportunity to play, the drummer's excitement is subtle, but obvious. The band was in charge of selecting the setlist they would perform with Johnston, and as a fan, Sebastian took the reins.

He explains that his excitement stems from "not just the show, but the room itself. I've never played a 700-seat theatre," he said in reference to the Myer Horowitz theatre,

where the show will take place.

Many musicians might be daunted by performing with a renowned act they haven't strummed a note with until the curtain opens, but not Eamon McGrath and Peacemaker. It's these opportunities that cause them to devote so much time to their craft.

"It's fun — when it stops being fun, you're doing something wrong," Sebastian theorizes on seizing an opportunity that might sound off alarms for other musicians.

I had expected that an interview with a band titled "Eamon McGrath & Peacemaker" would strictly circle McGrath, the band's songwriter and singer.

Bassist Klippenstein even insists that "it's all Eamon's songs, with us supplying the backend."

However, McGrath favors a more egalitarian approach to the band's musical output, stating that "regardless of title, it's a band."



## albumreview

### Lee Harvey Osmond

A Quiet Evil  
Latent Recordings

BETH STORHEIM  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Lee Harvey Osmond is a super-group comprised of Tom Wilson (Junkhouse, Blackie and the Rodeo Kings), along with some of the members of Cowboy Junkies and Skydiggers. Their first album, *A Quiet Evil*, creates a gorgeous, gritty confluence of bluesy grooves and countrified rock that manages to sound comfortable, yet simultaneously unsettling to the ears.

"The Love of One" begins the album with a slow crescendo, and its combination of blues, rock, and country styles — plus the quiet, low-down vocals from Wilson and others — sets the mood for the album.

The steel guitar ties in beautifully with the seductive vocals and mid-night lounge feel.

"Queen Bee" adds a strong country-blues vein, via the Skydiggers'

influence, while "Blade of Grass" is soulful and sexy. "I'm Going to Stay That Way" is a quiet love song of sorts written by Wilson and his former belle, Cathy Jones of *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* fame, brilliantly sung with Margot Timmins. "Lucifer Blues" allows Wilson's voice to finally break out of low volume and vocalize with a bit more sensuality and devilishness.

The well-arranged ensemble of songs on this album defy categorization, and leave the listener's musical palette just satisfied enough to hunger for more, but Wilson's twisted and melancholic lyrics on *A Quiet Evil* are partially why the album, despite such down-to-earth and low-key arrangements, can never feel wholly comfortable for the listener.



# Chaperon-ing an evening of laughable musical whimsy

## theatrepreview

**The Drowsy Chaperone**  
Book by Bob Martin and Don McKellar  
Music and lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison  
Starring Julien Arnold, Jay Brazeau, Mark Burgess, Lovenia B. Fox, and Susan Gilmour.  
Runs September 5–October 4 No show Mondays  
Tickets \$60–95.  
Available at [www.citadeltheatre.com](http://www.citadeltheatre.com)

BRYAN SAUNDERS  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

For Max Reimer, being the director of *The Drowsy Chaperone* can already be considered familiar territory. About a year ago, he directed the very same comedy for the Playhouse Theatre in Vancouver where it received — and perhaps this is an understatement — a very warm reception.

“It was a real hit in Vancouver,” Reimer beams. “It was one of the top sellers for Vancouver Playhouse in [the theatre’s] entire history, and it also won all kinds of Jessie awards — Vancouver’s theatre awards. It was a real blockbuster success!”

As a result, Playhouse Theatre has teamed up with Ottawa’s National Arts Centre and Edmonton’s own Citadel Theatre to put on yet another production of this “musical within a comedy.”

The comedy, Reimer explains, comes about through the droll and often unapologetically “meta” observations of the character known only as Man in Chair.

“He’s just a current day fan of the old musicals,” Reimer begins. “And he puts on a record of an old 1920s musical, and he starts to describe this record to us.”

The “musical within the comedy” comes about when the musical that the Man in Chair is listening to and wittily describing to the audience starts materializing as a full cast of glitzy performers.



“It comes to life in full living colour all around us,” Reimer laughs. “With tap-dancing, and gorgeous, leggy showgirls, crazed producers, and all the sort of characters one might see in a ’20s musical. They all start to pop out of this man’s imagination and come out of this record that he’s playing.”

The musical that the Man in Chair is listening to is called *The Drowsy Chaperone* and the Man in Chair continually pulls audiences into the musical, and then back into his world, and then back into the musical again.

The musical-within-the-comedy itself is about a showgirl named Janet Van De Graaff, who plans on getting married to an oil tycoon named Bob Martin and leaving show business forever. However, a number of characters, for all their various reasons, don’t want Van De Graaff to stop performing, and hilarity ensues as character after character tries to stop the couple from tying the knot.

As Reimer explains, the character names Bob Martin and Janet Van De Graaff actually allude to *The Drowsy Chaperone*’s original and very humble origins.

“*The Drowsy Chaperone* came to be as a wedding gift to [Canadian actors] Bob Martin and

Janet Van De Graaff when they were getting married. A group of musical theatre enthusiasts — writers and others that were in the habit of getting together and creating these gorgeous little gems — got together and gave it to Martin and Van De Graff as a wedding gift.”

As Reimer goes on to say, what started out 11 years ago as just a small, loving valentine to musical theatre went on to be reshaped as a full-blown play and shown in front of a welcoming audience at the Toronto Fringe Festival. Spurred on, it went onto a longer run in a number of theatres in Toronto, before doing Broadway (where it won five Tony awards), a tour of North America, a production in Vancouver, as well as — just recently — a run in Japan. And, now, this very successful and very Canadian play has landed in Edmonton.

Reimer offers an explanation for the play’s success:

“I just think this is a real play for our times,” Reimer smiles. “I think that’s why [Citadel Artistic Director] Bob Baker was real interested on collaborating with us in doing a Citadel version.

“It’s got such a rich, deep story around it, and it’s lots of fun; there’s lots of comedy, and great, fun, light tap-dancing. So you get a great feeling in these sort-of difficult times. It’s a real pick-me-up.”

## FLOP CULTURE

Most of the time, the public gets sick of the celebrities that Larry King interviews by the time the interview is over, but it takes a rare form of incompetence to make us sick of you before the interview even airs. Excerpts from the interview made the rounds online earlier this week before the full interview aired on September 2.

Chris “I just beat my girlfriend, but can’t we all just get along?” Brown, made headlines everywhere this week after he told Larry King that he didn’t remember violently assaulting Rihanna earlier this year, then backpedalled from his claims of complete retrograde amnesia to more of “a blur.” It’s those damn television editors, taking quotes like, “No. I don’t. I don’t. It’s like wow, it’s crazy,” (which, it should be noted, is a legitimate and articulate defense of domestic violence) and spinning them for their own dastardly purposes. He’s pretty sure he laid a hand on her at some point or another, and that she didn’t just “fall down the stairs,” and by Christ, he wants the world to know.

And really, how could you not believe him, what with his quaint little blue bowtie and his weeping mother? Don’t you see? Regardless of whether or not he remembers it, the most important thing here is that he’s coming out in public to try and set the record straight, not for shameless publicity and a chance to make him look like the victim. Yes, his ego has been savagely beaten and threatened with death, but this fighter has miraculously survived and is now learning his lesson via talk show appearances on cable news networks (which is practically community service) to reiterate how sorry he is, and how much he wants to just put it behind him — and by the way his new album *Graffiti* is dropping, and you should check out his shiz, fo’ real.

JOHN KMECH

*Flop Culture is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway pop culture pundits shake their literary fists at ridiculous events or celebrities deserving of an inky bitch-slap.*

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# THE GATEWAY



## Football Bears open season against UBC

After a frustrating '08 season, the Green and Gold will be looking to make a return to the postseason in 2009



EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

For a second-straight season, the Golden Bears football team will open their regular season schedule on the familiar turf of Foote Field. With their lone preseason game now in the rear-view mirror and the roster close to being finalized, the Bears can now turn their attention to the UBC Thunderbirds, who fly in from the west coast for a Friday-night matchup with the Green and Gold.

The T-Birds, meanwhile, are coming off a 20-7 loss at the hands of their arch rival Simon Fraser Clan last week in Vancouver.

Both B.C. based teams opened the Canada West and CIS football schedules a week before any other action took place, and that means Alberta head coach Jerry Friesen and his coaching staff will have the benefit of some game film. Friesen knows regardless of what the T-Birds did last week as far as schemes, they'll be at their best come Friday.

"I know they're going to be competitive especially with their first game being at home and them not being successful. They're going to be hungry and we know we're going to have to be ready to play," said Friesen.

With the majority of the roster set heading into the season opener, there are still a few areas that will need to sort themselves out over the coming days and weeks. One in particular is at quarterback, where both newcomer Julian Marchand and Quade Armstrong are making cases for

themselves to be dubbed the starter. As it turns out, though, the battle for that position may play out over the entire season.

"Both of them bring different aspects to the game. We're going to make sure we use both of their skills on the field," Friesen said. "Quade and Julian are great character players and understand what's best for the football team. We want to make sure we put them in a position to be successful out on the field."

On the defensive side of the ball, Alberta will be looking to shut down a UBC offence that managed only 125 yards through the air against SFU.

"The key is that we've got some players who are real quick, they're athletic, and we have to make sure we end up getting to the football. It doesn't matter what type of structure we have in place; it's just a matter of making sure we execute and use the skills that we have and put them on the field," explained Friesen.

With such a short season, the Bears will be looking to get started out of the gate fast. Friesen knows the conference is on the rise, and the Bears will have no time to sit back and see what happens.

"The whole conference's level of play is going to go up. In such a short, intense season, you don't have any recovery time. Whoever comes out of the gate hardest and fastest, they're going to have the advantage."

The Golden Bears kickoff their Canada West season against the Thunderbirds on the Foote Field turf at 7 p.m. Friday night.

**RUNNING ON THE BIRDS** Tendayi Jozzy (left) will look to help push the Bears offence past the T-Birds in the season opener.

FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

## Bears comfortable with dynamic duo at quarterback

Both Quade Armstrong and newcomer Julian Marchand will likely see action in the Bears season opener

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

It's the storyline that's dominated talk around Golden Bears football training camp this season — who will end up behind centre as the Bears starting quarterback come Friday when the Bears open their regular season against the UBC Thunderbirds.

Julian Marchand, who was recruited in the off-season after tearing up the Prairie Junior Football Conference last year has been solid in camp — but then again so has last year's starter Quade Armstrong. Despite seeing both in an exhibition tilt against Saskatchewan this past weekend, head coach Jerry Friesen has yet to label either player the starter and may not even bother doing so.

"Right now it's between Quade and Julian; but I suspect any way we look at it, whoever starts, the other player is going to get some snaps through out the game. Both bring different skill sets to the table and we have to make sure we use all of those skill sets," explained Friesen.

Marchand's arrival hasn't phased Armstrong, who's taken this year's quarterback competition in stride.

"Every year there's someone new coming in to compete with, and

this year, it was probably my biggest challenge since I have been here, but I guess I expected it," Armstrong admitted. "I had to come to camp just like any other year and compete to have the job."

**"Right now it's between Quade and Julian; but I suspect anyway we look at it, whoever starts, the other player is going to get some snaps through out the game."**

JERRY FRIESEN  
HEAD COACH BEARS FOOTBALL

Coming into camp Marchand knew there would be no guarantees as far as his role on the team, and like Armstrong has handled the competition well.

"Quarterbacks as a group — we're kind of a role altogether," Marchand explained. "Our job is to be leaders and make the team better whether we're on the field or not. At the end of the day [Friesen] didn't give me a specific role. He just told me to come and compete

for the job, but we're not competing against each other. We're competing as a unit and doing whatever we have to do to make the other person better and support each other."

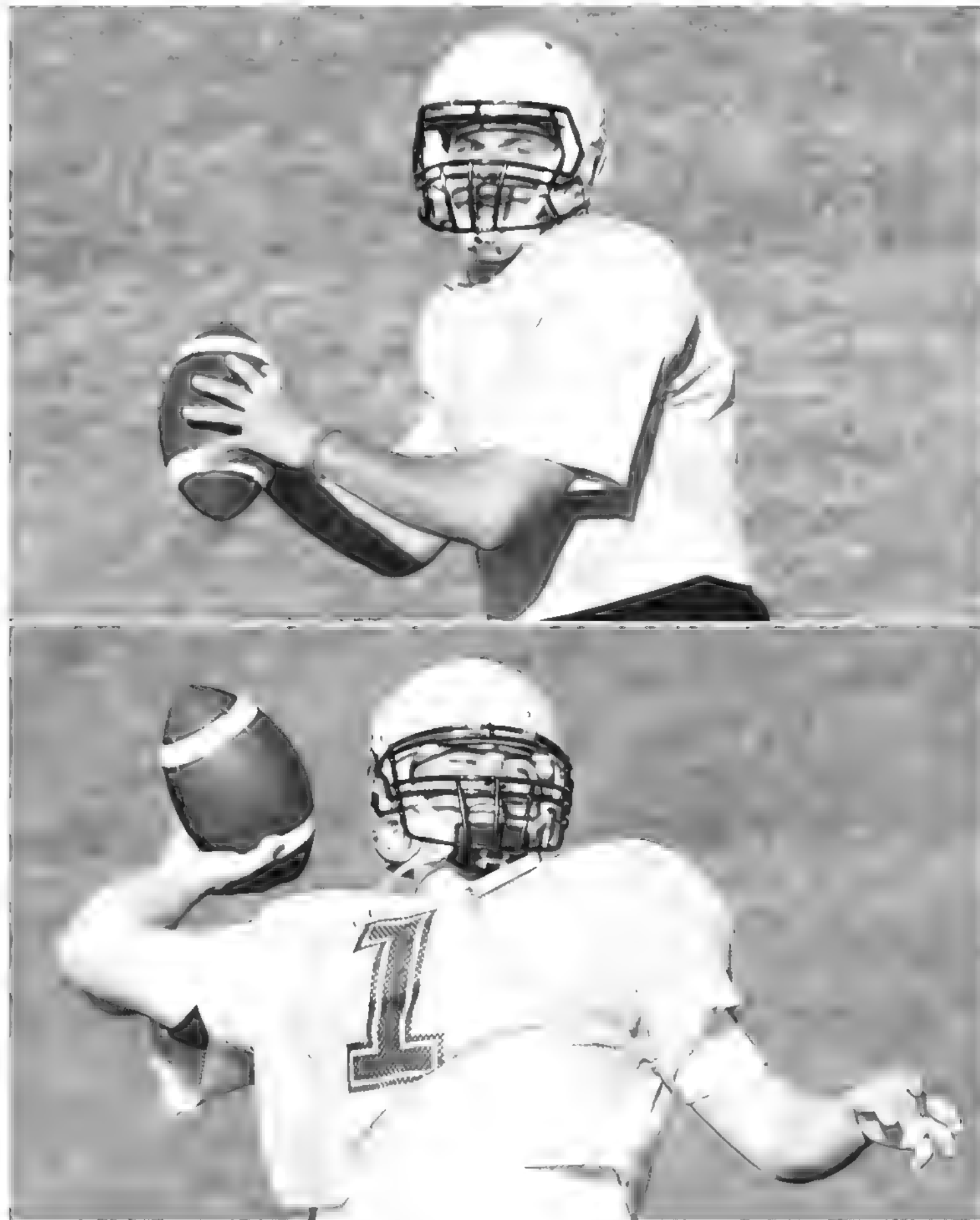
Both Armstrong and Marchand have downplayed the perceived head-to-head competition between each other for the quarterbacking job. Although both would take the opportunity to be the sole starter and run with it, team success is what matters most.

"If we can use both as effectively then I am all for it — whatever is going to win us games," said Armstrong.

Marchand echoed Armstrong's team first mentality, as both continue to put their own goals secondary to the teams. As the rookie pivot pointed out, a quarterback tandem would be fine if it meant overall success.

"Quade had a really good exhibition game and has been playing really well. He's been around this offence for a year, so he knows what's going on. I would have no issues working with him and sharing time — I'd be happy to," Marchand said.

"Everyone wants to play and get on the field, but at the same time, if I'm not the person who's going to help the team, then the person who is should be on the field."



PETE YEE

**THROW ME THE BALL** Julian Marchand (top) and Quade Armstrong (bottom) will be looking to guide the Bears offence against the T-Birds this Friday.





PETE YEE

**PRESEASON SLIDE** Pandas striker Sarah Smyth (right) goes for the ball in a preseason contest against Saskatchewan.

# Pandas soccer squad ready for the start of another year

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

It was another up-and-down year for the Pandas soccer squad in 2008, but with a new season on the horizon, things are looking bright for head coach Liz Jepsen's crew.

Although the team struggled at times last season with both injuries and inconsistent play, the Green and Gold managed a 6–5–3 regular season mark — good enough for a fifth-place finish in the regular season and a berth in the Canada West play-offs. The Pandas went on to lose to Manitoba in their Canada West play-off matchup, finishing the season in sixth spot.

“Overall, I thought, for a young team, we did fairly well. We finished sixth — that’s okay; it’s not great and certainly isn’t what were looking to do this year, but I was satisfied with the players play and where they came to by the end of the season,” said Jepsen, who’s entering her fifth season as bench boss for the program.

Jepsen, who captured a national championship as a player in 1989, is just as optimistic about the team 20 years later, as the Pandas will field a squad that loses only fifth-year graduate Michelle Mueller from last

season’s team.

Alberta will welcome back all three leading scorers from last year’s squad. Jacqueline Smith and Veronique Mayer are each back for their final year of eligibility, while Amanda Black returns for her sophomore season after a stellar rookie campaign.

Smith, whose play-making ability was second to none last year, had a league-high nine assists to go along with a lone goal, making her the Pandas leading point-getter. Black burst onto the scene last season, tallying six goals and three assists as a rookie, good enough for second in team scoring. Rounding out the top-three offensive threats from last season is Mayer who notched three goals to go with her three assists.

Several Pandas also enter 2009 with some valuable international experience in their back-pockets. Both Mayer and Smith suited up for Canada at this summer’s Universiade in the Balkans and were Canada West First-Team All-Stars last season. Joining those two in Serbia was defender and Second-Team All-Star Keshia Wallin. Jepsen, likewise, made the trip to Serbia as part of Team Canada’s coaching staff.

Along with those four returning to the lineup for the 2009 season, a

familiar face will be back after a season away from the team.

“Lindsey Stewart is a fifth-year player and she’s returning after a year of hiatus. She took last year off while she was in Business and she’s come back to us now. She’s a gritty, quick-footed player. She really gets around the park,” Jepsen commented.

“When we met up with Vic [in pre-season], they were really commenting on how she impacted the game. She was a top player for us when she was in her fourth year, so this year I would predict she continues to be an impact player.”

With several key pieces in the fold again, the Pandas will certainly contend with the likes of perennial playoff teams like Victoria and UBC. Beyond that, a new playoff format that features a four-team setup as opposed to the six-team system used last season will only elevate the level of play in the regular season.

“Every single point is going to make a bigger difference. Last year, you could make sure that you play a lineup to give certain people rest or put the puzzle together that way, but this year that won’t fly. This year, every game is going to have to be a top performance in order to compete for one of those four playoff spots.”

## 2009 PANDAS SOCCER SCHEDULE



Sept. 12: vs. UBC T-Birds  
Sept. 13: vs. TWU Spartans  
Foote Field, 12 p.m.



Sept. 19: at Regina Cougars  
Sept. 20: at Manitoba Bisons  
11 p.m.



Sept. 26: at Leth. Pronghorns  
Sept. 27: at Calgary Dinos  
12 p.m.



Oct. 3: vs. UFV Cascades  
Oct. 4: vs. Victoria Vikes  
Foote Field, 12 p.m.



Oct. 17: vs. Manitoba Bisons  
Oct. 18: vs. Regina Cougars  
Foote Field, 12 p.m.



Oct. 23: at TWU Spartans  
Oct. 24: at UBC T-Birds  
12 p.m.



Oct. 31 - Nov.1:  
vs. Saskatchewan Huskies  
Foote Field, 12 p.m.



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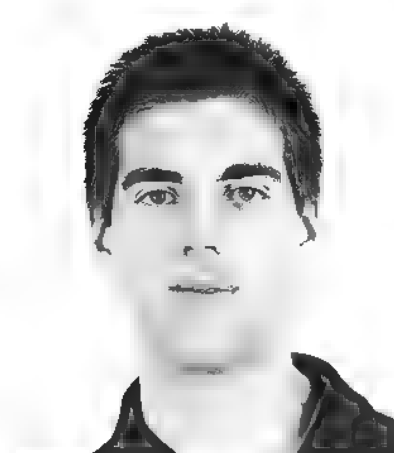
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# Dubbing the Western Ontario Mustangs CIS' best goes too far

UWO is an elite sport school, but so are many other CIS programs



EVAN  
DAUM

Sports  
Commentary

While perusing the Internet for the latest CIS gossip, I came across an interesting blurb on CISblog.ca about which is the best sports university in our fair country. Radio talk show host Norman James, based out of London, Ontario, has thrown the challenge out there for “anyone to find a stronger school than [the University of Western Ontario] in all 38 major sports contested at the university level in Canada. I think I’m right on the money when I say UWO leads the pack, in the OUA, and the CIS,” he challenged. His comments over the past few weeks have stirred up some debate amongst online CIS enthusiasts. James’ statement was bold without a doubt, but the validity of his claim is certainly up for debate.

Before you dismiss his notion as another fallacy being spread by the media in Southern Ontario, take a closer look. First off, let’s clear up one thing that James was off the mark on — there aren’t 38 major sports at the CIS level. No matter what you consider to be a “major sport,” if it’s not at the

varsity level, it’s tough to consider it a major CIS sport. Right now, the Western Mustangs have 27 varsity teams.

Now that that’s straightened out, let’s take a look at another factor that should be considered when looking at whether or not a school can be classified as a top-tier sports school, let alone being dubbed the very best: winning. Simply put, if you’re not victorious, you can’t be considered the best at anything, especially in sports. I could throw out a pile full of stats, but that wouldn’t prove my point — besides, stats are vastly overrated.

**“Some of our friends, particularly out of market, think I’m an idiot. And that’s okay. They’re wrong, but again, it’s all okay.”**

**NORMAN JAMES**

TALK SHOW HOST - AM980 LONDON, ON

Western has had a lot of success in the CIS sporting world, but has been outpaced by other schools like Alberta in the grand scheme of things. Unlike Western, the Green and Gold have won national titles in every team sport. Although conference titles are significant, when looking at who is

the best on the national level, national titles are what matter.

There are so many factors that come into play when looking at what makes one school better than another, be it academically or athletically. As I mentioned above, I’m not sure where the number 38 came from with respect to major sports, but sheer numbers alone don’t make a school better than another with respect to athletics. Just because you can field more teams doesn’t mean you’re automatically the best. Fan support, school spirit, individual athletes success, tradition, and so much more help create the definition of a true sports school. Western is, without a doubt, a top-tier sports school — however, to make the assertion it’s the best goes too far.

I don’t totally agree with James, but I must applaud him for sparking some interest. His radio program *The Hook* on AM980 might now be getting a listen or two by a few die-hard CIS fans ready to defend their schools all across Canada. James made a bold statement that’s caught the attention of CIS fans, and one can only hope sparks the interest of the casual fan, because after all, everyone likes a good old-fashioned verbal throwdown.

As James said on his show: “Some of our friends, particularly out of market, think I’m an idiot. And that’s okay. They’re wrong, but again, it’s all okay.”



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# 2009 BEARS SOCCER SCHEDULE



Sept. 12: vs. UBC T-Birds  
Sept. 13: vs. TWU Spartans  
Foote Field, 2:15 p.m.



Sept. 19: vs UFV Cascades  
Sept. 20: vs Victoria Vikes  
Foote Field, 2 p.m.



Sept. 26: at Leth. Pronghorns  
Sept. 27: at Calgary Dinos  
Leth., 2pm - Calgary, 2:15 p.m.



Oct. 3: at Victoria Vikes  
Oct. 4: at UFV Cascades  
3:15 p.m.



Oct. 17-18:  
vs. Calgary Dinos  
Foote Field, 2:15 p.m.



Oct. 23: at TWU Spartans  
Oct. 24: at UBC T-Birds  
8:15 p.m.



Oct. 31: vs. Sask. Huskies  
Foote Field, 2:15 p.m.  
Nov. 1: at Sask. Huskies  
1:15 p.m.



FILE PHOTO: LAUREN STIEGLITZ

**BEAR SCOUTS** The Bears will have a young but talented team again this season.

## Young soccer Bears set to kickoff 2009

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

After fielding an extremely young team last season, the Bears soccer team will once again be light on Canada West experience and heavy on potential in 2009.

Head coach Len Vickery and his Green and Gold soccer squad will have only two fifth-year players to rely on this season — Cam Black and Alvaro Campos, who makes his way to the U of A after spending his entire CIS career with the University of Saskatchewan Huskies.

Those two players will be looked to for all the qualities expected of veteran talent, but the team will also lean heavily on its third-year players — notably forward Brett Colvin who lead the Canada West last season with 13 points.

“Some of our third-year players have to be looked upon, and no one more so than Brett. Brett’s more than demonstrated that he can score at the Canada West level,” Vickery said. “We’re going to look to him to provide some of the offensive threat and, particularly, to score some goals for us again this year as our tremendous young players find their way.”

Not only did Colvin lead the conference in points last season, he also was a conference First Team All-Star, and Second Team All-Canadian. Couple those two accomplishments with being named to this Summer’s Universiade team, and one can see that Colvin’s resumé definitely bodes well for the Bears.

With a short season and opportunities for wins at a premium,

training camp has been even more hectic this season with five Bears playing in the Canada Summer Games this past month. Those five players — Osmo Bimba, Sean Colvin, Scott Gilroy, Dean Nothover, and Andrew Hood — only arrived at camp this past Monday, meaning Alberta won’t even have two weeks to train as a unit before their season opener against UBC.

Another obstacle for Vickery is implementing his vision for the team after players spent the summer playing on their club teams across Western Canada.

“We have to spend a lot of time getting everyone on the same page. Letting them know about the program, what the expectations of the program are, how we’re going to look to play, and what the goals for the season are going to be,” explained Vickery.

“In some cases, players are coming to the University for the first time. They’re already having to try and deal with a new environment, sort out their school programs, and so on. We just try and have them get comfortable with our environment from the soccer point of view, what the expectations are going to be, and it has to be done in short order.”

Even though the Bears will field another young squad, that doesn’t mean the expectations will be any lower for the ’09 edition of the Green and Gold then they have been in the past.

“Most people recognize that at the University of Alberta, making play-offs, winning Canada West championships, and challenging at the very least for a national championship is the goal for most, if not all programs at the U of A.”

## BY THE NUMBERS

13

Number of points put up last season by forward Brett Colvin. Colvin’s 13 points tied him for the league lead.

10

Number of first-year players in Bears training camp this season. Those ten players are coupled with eight second year players.

3

The number of players in either their fourth or fifth years of eligibility. The Bears will field another very young team in 2009.



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## THIS WEEK'S SPORTS FLOP



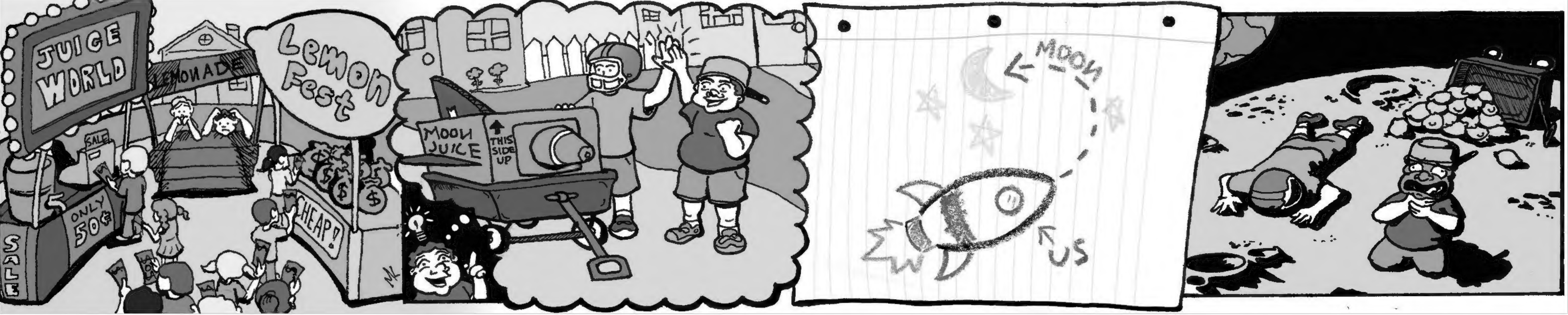
The Toronto Argonauts continued their losing ways at home with a 23-20 loss to the equally pathetic Calgary Stampeders — the Argos’ 10th straight loss on Rogers Centre turf.

If you like being part of a winning team, come out to a Gateway Sports meeting every Thursday at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB.

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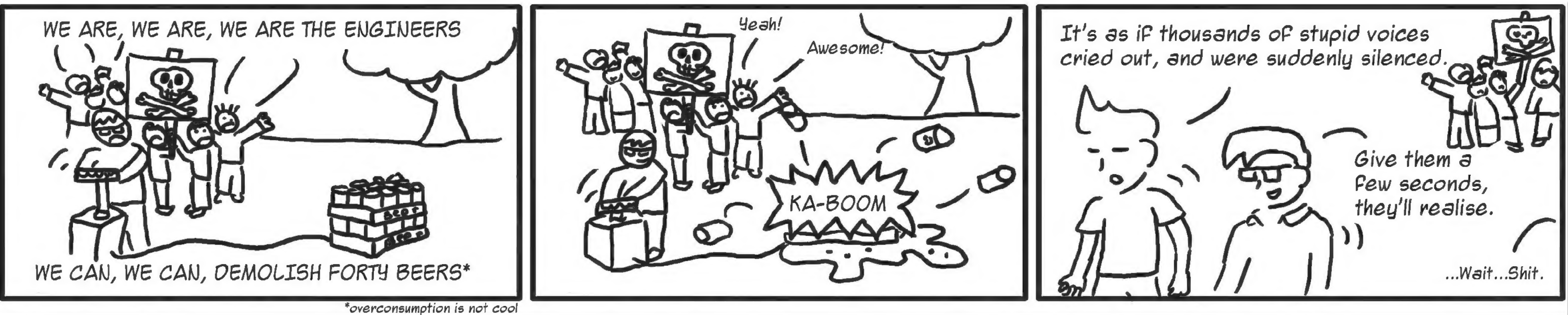
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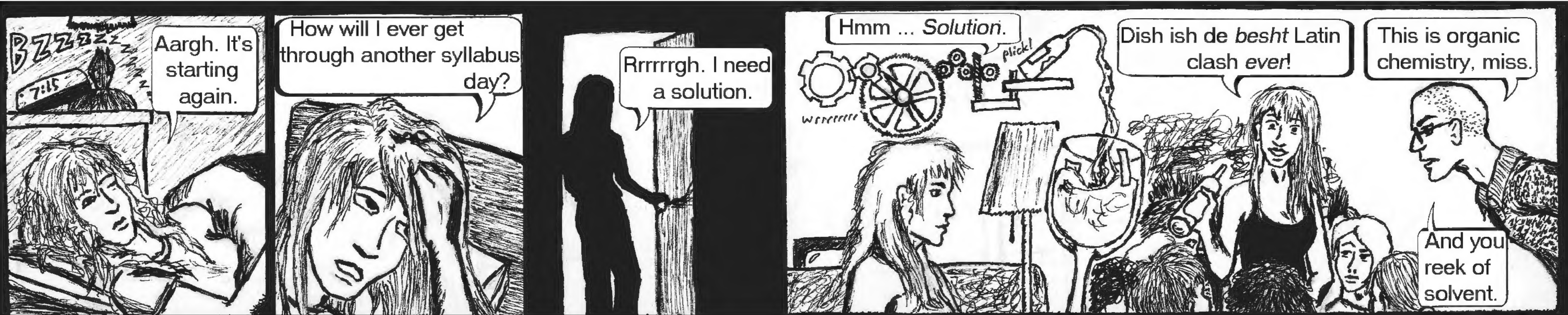
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